Town Halls of Canada

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Front Cover: Front elevation of Stratford City Hall, Stratford, Ont. Designed by architect George W. King. Original competitive plan in watercolour. (City of Stratford)

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TOWN HALLS OF CANADA

A Collection of Essays on Pre-1930 Town Hall Buildings

Marc de Caraffe
C.A. Hale
Dana Johnson
G.E. Mills
and
introduction by
Margaret Carter

Studies in Archaeology
Architecture and History

National Historic Parks and Sites Branch
Environment Canada — Parks

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This collection of essays is based on research carried out from 1978 to 1981 by the architectural historians at Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, Environment Canada — Parks, Ottawa.

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TYPES AND TRENDS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF EARLY CANADIAN TOWN HALLS

Margaret Carter

This is a study of early Canadian town halls – their relationship to architectural design and Canadian history. It discusses town hall buildings across the country, de-emphasizing their connection to other buildings in the villages, towns and cities in which they are located, and stressing instead their common function as the seats of local government in their areas. The study's approach is based on the premise that buildings designed to serve a common function share common operational requirements, architectural roots and historical traditions. Although these influences may be interpreted differently from one community to another across Canada, a comparative look at our town hall buildings reveals many shared characteristics. In short, distinguishable traditions of Canadian town hall construction do exist.

In case it should appear that the individuality of particular town halls has been sacrificed to convenient generalization, it should be mentioned that this study draws its conclusions from two distinct types of evidence. The first is the literature on general architectural design and municipal development that would traditionally be used for such a study. The second is information on the town halls actually constructed in Canada. Most Canadian buildings constructed in incorporated communities before 1930 to house meetings of local councils were considered in this exercise. The year 1930 was selected as a cut-off date because it was felt that the numerous town halls built as the result of make-work projects of the Depression should be put in a different category. Thus, by limiting the body of the study to buildings constructed before that year, comparisons could be made on a sampling of structures presumably erected under similar circumstances. A determined effort was made to locate and prepare profiles of all the town halls that still existed in 1978 when the study was undertaken: 19 in British Columbia, 13 in Alberta, 47 in Saskatchewan, 16 in Manitoba, 273 in Ontario, 61 in Quebec, four in New Brunswick, 15 in Nova Scotia and one in Prince Edward Island. Newfoundland has no surviving pre-1930 town halls, largely because of its unique history of municipal organization.

Although the most outstanding feature of these Canadian town halls is their architectural variety, there are common characteristics by which they can be described. Some, for example, are strictly administrative buildings, devoted to the accommodation of civic government only. Such buildings may contain no more than a room for the meetings of the local council, although they may also house some offices of paid administrative staff concerned with carrying out local council legislation.

Other town halls combine different functions. Such town halls not only contain a council chamber, they also accommodate one or more additional functions. These may be other civic functions requiring special facilities, such as fire stations, police stations, markets or schools; they may be functions of another level of government, such as post offices or court houses; they may be business quarters operated by private entrepreneurs, or special entertainment facilities such as opera houses. All town halls can be identified as either administrative or combined-function buildings according to these definitions.

Similarly, there are elements in the scale of town hall buildings – that is, their size as well as the relative architectural complexity of their design – by which they can be described. Unfortunately, the parameters of scale groupings are not as clearly defined as those of functional "types"; nevertheless, three general categories do exist. These can be termed "simple," "intermediate" and "monumental."

"Simple" town halls are those buildings relatively similar in size to churches, schools, residences and other buildings in their communities. The overall dimensions of these buildings are also comparable to those of town halls in communities of a similar population in the same geographical region of Canada. Generally, the interiors of simple town halls contain one central room, although there may be additional small chambers. The ornamentation on the exteriors of such buildings is generally rudimentary in both the materials used and the way in which those materials are shaped for use in buildings, even though there may be some variations in the degree of complexity. The town hall in Agassiz, British Columbia, for example, presents a plain façade, whereas that in Wolfe Island, Ontario, appears relatively more ornate; yet both are "simple" buildings, made of local materials, processed by local hands in a manner common at the time of their construction.

In contrast, "monumental" town halls are large both in relation to town halls in communities of a similar size in the same geographical region, and compared with other buildings in their own communities at the time they were built. The latter distinction is sometimes difficult to perceive today, particularly in cases like Rivière-du-Loup, Quebec, and Edmonton, Alberta, where modern construction has dwarfed what were formerly prominent buildings. It can, however, be easily perceived in centres such as Stratford and Cobourg, Ontario, whose central business districts have retained their proportions relatively well. "Monumental" buildings usually have complex floor plans; they contain multiple levels or storeys and offer a variety of interior traffic routes to their users. Moreover, the interiors of monumental buildings are often rich and ornate; the present city hall in Montreal, for example, contains gilt bronze hardware imported from Paris, floors of Campan marble and similar costly, rare materials to enhance its magnificence. The majority of "monumental" buildings also include sophisticated, deliberately imposing, architect-conceived exteriors, although more modern variations of the type such as the Edmonton and London city halls are large utilitarian boxes which rely on massing alone to underline their significance. "Monumental" town halls are clearly outstanding in design, in massing, in complexity and in detail.

Between the extremes of the "monumental" and "simple" type of town hall lies a broad range of structures that for want of a better word can be termed "intermediate." Such buildings were comparatively larger than most other buildings in their communities at the time they were built, but their size was not dramatically out of proportion with their surroundings. The size of such buildings was also roughly comparable to town halls built by communities of a similar population in the same geographical region. The Perth, Ontario, town hall is not, for example, significantly different in overall dimensions from its counterparts in Smiths Falls, Aylmer and Dundas, Ontario. While such buildings may or may not be architect designed, their exteriors are relatively undistinguished. They followed proven popular styles and employed common design features. Indeed, the pediment and dome on the town hall in Chambly, Quebec, were probably mass-manufactured and purchased through a catalogue, and this convenient practice was no doubt followed elsewhere.

These definitions of simple, intermediate and monumental scale, and administrative and combined function can be applied to all town halls in Canada. Indeed, a discussion of the design of town halls built by Canadians is the subject of the first three essays of this book. The final two essays discuss the political, economic and intellectual contexts within which town halls were built in Canada, answering such questions as: Why were town halls built at all? Why were they built when they were? Why were they built to look as they did? The findings of these essays emphasize that Canadian town hall architecture is strongly influenced by general conditions that can best be described as regional.

These final essays also stress the importance of local context in the construction of a town hall. One simple contrast of extremes will illustrate this point. In some communities, town halls were deliberately constructed on a scale that far surpassed the needs or indeed the financial capabilities of the residents at the time they were built. Such buildings tended to be both elaborately designed and prominently sited, constructed in the name of "progress" by town councils with high ambitions for future expansion. Other centres built exceptionally modest structures that did no more than provide basic accommodation for their current needs. Such buildings were characterized by their plain design, by the fact that they faded insignificantly into the streetscapes that surrounded them and by the claims of their sponsoring councils to "fiscal responsibility." Although the majority of town halls conform to neither of these extreme models, it is important to indicate here that there are cases in which both extremes exist within the same time period and geographic region. When this does occur, only local factors seem to explain the difference between the landmark town hall and its relentlessly functional cohort.

Indeed, the fact that town halls are so closely linked to specific communities has made them an interesting subject for study. No central agency dictated the terms for their design as, for example, did the federal government in its construction of post offices. Each town built what it felt it needed and wanted. Moreover, the functional restrictions prescribing town hall design are less rigid than they are for almost any other building type, consisting only of a place for a table and chairs at which to hold council meetings. As a result, Canada abounds in a variety of town halls as architecturally diverse as they are historically interesting.

In concluding this introduction, special acknowledgements should be given to Randy Rostecki and to Elizabeth Moxley for their contribution to the preparation of this manuscript.

I. ANTECEDENTS AND INFLUENCES: THE ROOT FORMS OF CANADIAN MUNICIPAL HALL DESIGN

G.E. Mills

INTRODUCTION

> City halls may rejoice in towers and colonnades, expand into gigantic office buildings and ignore past precedents, but town halls maintain the even tenor of their ways both in the form of architecture and its structural expression.[1]

This quote, which appeared in an American architectural journal in 1927, introduces a fundamental aspect of municipal halls as a building type before 1930: the interplay between long-standing traditions and new spatial requirements dictated by the rise of big city government during the late 19th century. The municipal halls built in Canada and indeed in most countries where local government was an accepted institution were influenced by these two factors during the second half of the 19th century. The degree of influence varied according to the size of community and date of construction.

Canada's earliest municipal halls, like the institutions they were built to house, were introduced by successive waves of British settlers coming either directly from that country or via the United States. Initial notions of appropriate accommodation were consequently based on antecedents found in those countries. The evolution of civic government and municipal hall design occurring in Britain, the United States, and to a lesser extent Europe, continued to exercise a strong influence on their Canadian counterparts during the 19th century.

Initially, the scale of administration remained limited regardless of community size. The town hall was primarily a place of public assembly, where citizens gathered for a wide variety of purposes of a political, social or economic nature. The absence of full-time paid civic employees was reflected in minimal office requirements. Consequently, the shape and appearance of the buildings were determined by criteria other than simply the housing of the machinery of local government. Historically, these criteria assumed two forms. The first was dictated by the long-standing link between local administration and the regulation of trade. From this association emerged the practice of combining civic chambers with public market facilities. The second criterion involved the desire to use the town hall as a means of expressing civic pride and prosperity. In such cases the town hall became a conspicuous symbolic monument to local enterprise.

The increasing complexity of civic government rendered the unspecialized facilities of previous town hall design obsolete during the second half of the 19th century. In their place, large cities erected increasingly complex and specialized buildings to accommodate their growing administrative operations in addition to legislative functions. Nonadministrative facilities such as markets, fire departments and police stations were gradually decentralized into separate buildings spread throughout the city, as the municipal hall assumed the form of an office complex. This trend occurred simultaneously in major cities in both Europe and North America. Initially, it was confined to the largest urban centres, but became prevalent in smaller communities as their administrative requirements expanded. The 19th century, then, witnessed the transformation of the municipal hall's role in the community.

TOWN HALL DESIGN TRADITIONS IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

The earliest structures associated with civic government appeared in the free cities of Italy, the Low Countries and parts of France during the mediaeval period. Initially, they consisted of a tower or belfry erected to house a bell used to summon citizens to the public square.

> The right to possess a bell was among the first privileges granted in all the old charters, for a bell was not only a symbol of authority and power but also a means of calling the community together to repel attack, to repress internal disturbances to select magistrates, or simply to deliberate on the affairs of the commonwealth. Moreover, the tower in which the bell hung was itself a symbol of power in the Middle Ages, for the first act of every newly enfranchised community was to erect a "tower of pride" in keeping with its new dignity.[2]

In northern Italy and parts of France, municipal buildings assumed fortresslike appearances reflecting their roles as bastions of defence against both external and internal attack. A distinguishing characteristic of mediaeval Italian examples was the inclusion of bell and lookout towers that rose to ever-increasing heights as rival *podestàs* sought to outdo each other[3] (Fig. 1). In France, they occasionally assumed the form of towers or belfries which housed civic documents and instruments for regulating weights and measures, along with a meeting chamber and the municipal bell.[4] Such buildings could serve interchangeably as lockups for opponents or law breakers, or as a refuge in the event of insurrection or attack (Fig. 2).

It was in the free cities of the Low Countries and northern France, however, that the town hall first emerged as a distinctive and fully articulated building type. Conditions in the region uniquely favoured this development from the 14th century onwards. The increasing commercial wealth and power of free cities in the region, coupled with the absence of strong centralized government, promoted the rise of powerful civic administrations dominated by local trade guilds. Monumental guild or town halls became an accepted mode for expressing civic pride and prosperity within these communities. By the 15th and 16th centuries, Gothic town halls rivalled religious buildings in size and sophistication in the region (Fig. 3).[5]

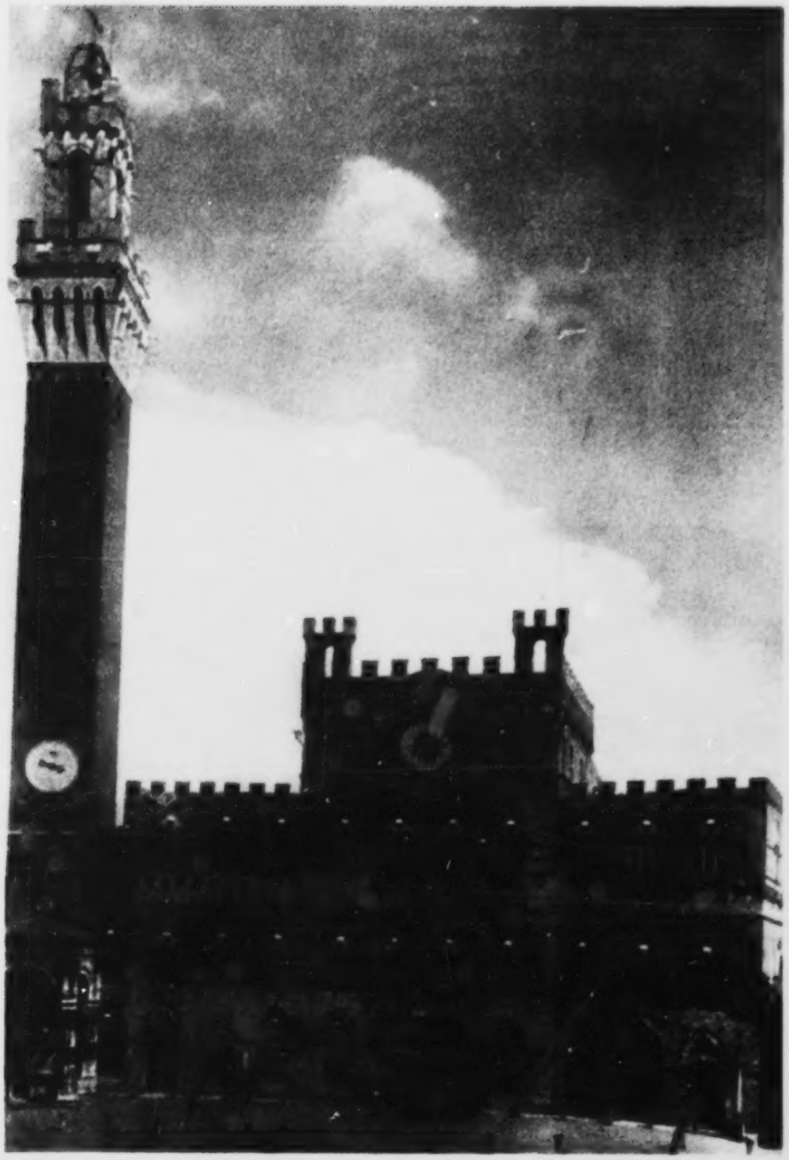


Figure 1. Palazzo Publico, Siena, Italy. The 285-foot tower on this 14th-century town hall illustrates the physical extremes that civic rivalries inspired in northern Italy during the mediaeval period. Clock and bell towers remained integral features of town hall design well into the 20th century. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

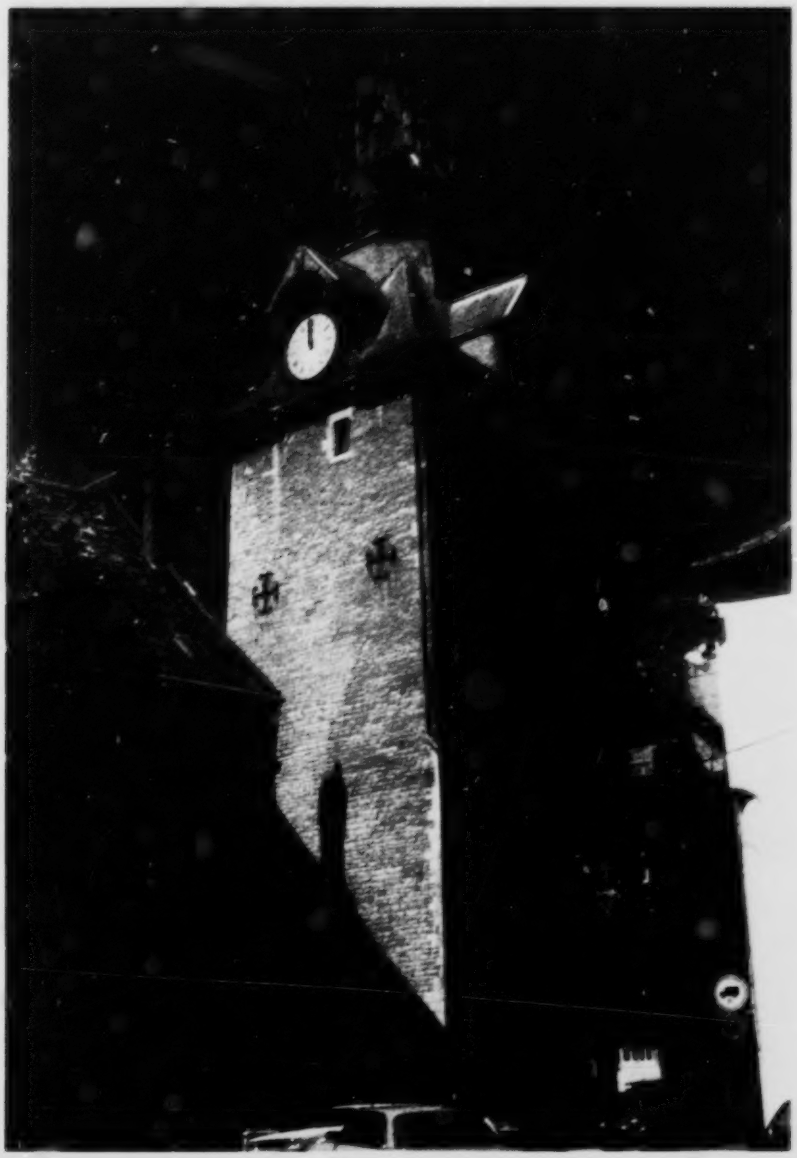


Figure 2. Late 14th-century belfry at Beaune, France. Buildings such as this housed the civic bell, charter and records, along with instruments for determining weights and measures. They also provided a refuge in the event of attack or insurrection. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, Marc de Caraffe)

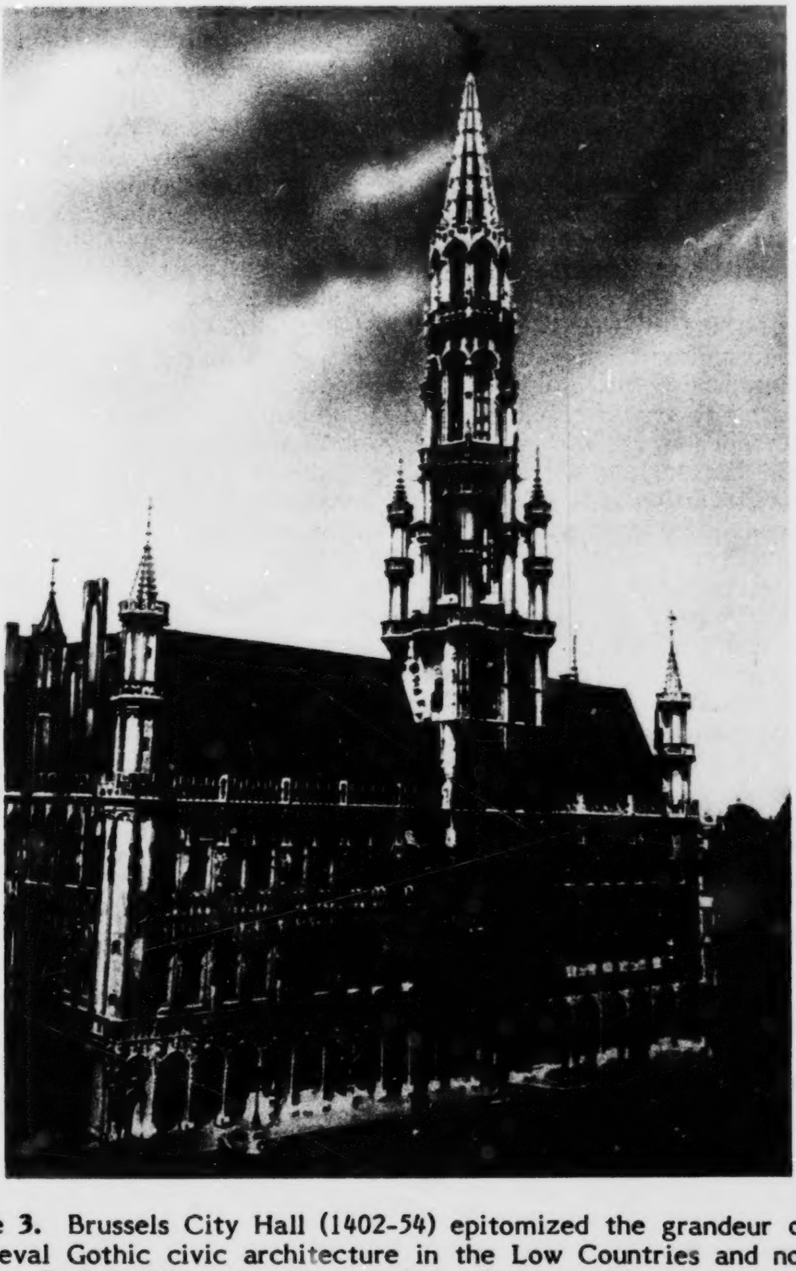


Figure 3. Brussels City Hall (1402-54) epitomized the grandeur of late mediaeval Gothic civic architecture in the Low Countries and northern France. Such buildings served as symbols of the wealth and civic pride of free cities in the region. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

The scale of such buildings was determined by the desire to create conspicuous civic monuments, rather than by utilitarian concerns for accommodation. This was reflected in the interior layouts, which were primarily designed to meet ceremonial and legislative rather than administrative requirements. Apart from council chambers and a great hall for public receptions, interior space remained relatively unspecialized in nature, and could include a wide variety of facilities ranging from kitchens to chapels and guild halls. Essential exterior elements consisted of a balcony for addressing citizens, a belfry for civic prestige and as a symbol of authority, and, from the 14th century onwards, a town clock.[6]

The high degree of wealth and local autonomy enjoyed by the free cities of the Netherlands, Belgium and northern France encouraged the continued construction of monumental city halls during the 16th and 17th centuries, where the Gothic style was replaced by Renaissance architectural forms to express civic prosperity and power.[7] Perhaps the high point of this tradition was the construction of Amsterdam's city hall, beginning in 1648. It coincided with the signing of the Peace of Westphalia and the formal recognition of the Netherlands' independence from Spain. Given the decentralized government of the nation, the new city hall became as much a statement of national as of civic pride.[8]

The mediaeval, Renaissance and baroque town halls of the Low Countries established archetypal forms which would be returned to by late 19th century cities of Europe and North America in their search for suitable architectural forms to house their growing bureaucracies.

In countries where centralized authority retarded the wealth and power of guilds, the appearance of civic buildings was restrained and of a more utilitarian nature. Among the initial quasi-civic functions performed by guilds in such countries – especially England – was the collection of tolls for the public sale of goods and produce in a designated market area. The tollbooth, initially a booth where these fees were collected, evolved into a partially enclosed market structure. It subsequently became common to add a chamber above the tolbooth to accommodate meetings of the "gildmerchants" or town council who administered this function.[9] Consolidation of the town bell, council chambers and storage facilities for the civic charter within the upper floor of the public market had become commonplace in English market towns by the late 13th century. An additional component was the weigh-house, in which the public weighing machine was located. Market goods were weighed and a toll collected for this service. The toll was frequently used for local improvements within the town. The combined town hall and public market continued to fulfill virtually all local governmental functions in most English urban centres for the next five centuries, the chief innovations being the gradual increase in the number of antechambers to accommodate the operations of magistrates' courts, and the appearance of town clocks as integral aspects of exterior design – usually mounted in cupolas from the 15th century onwards.[10]

During the early 19th century, several British communities began exploiting the town hall as an architectural monument. Initially, designs for these buildings borrowed Neoclassical forms used for other public buildings of the period such as Somerset House, a vast complex erected in London beginning in 1776 to house various administrative offices of the British government under a single roof.[11] Industrial cities such as Birmingham, Leeds and Liverpool constructed imposing Neoclassical town halls to display their wealth and counter their images as grim manufacturing centres (Fig. 4). While such buildings provided impressive local landmarks, they did not reflect a dramatic growth in the complexity of civic administration. A major interior feature was usually a large public hall which could be rented for social and cultural events, while courtrooms and ancillary chambers also occupied a substantial proportion of interior space.[12]

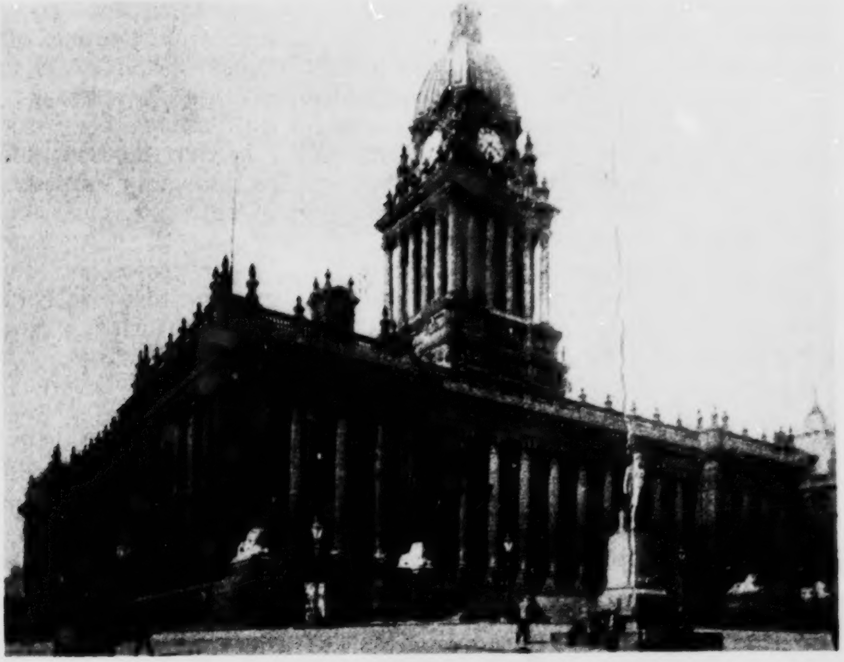


Figure 4. Town hall in Leeds, Yorkshire (1853-58). Much of this vast Neoclassical building was taken up by an assembly hall and law courts. The town's council chamber and administrative offices occupied a comparatively small amount of space in what was in effect a giant civic centre inspired by the city's rivalry with neighbouring Bradford. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

The forms of town hall facilities transplanted into British North America largely corresponded to those found in England during the same period. The combined market and town hall appeared in most areas of English settlement, except for Puritan communities. There a distinction was drawn between mercantile activities and local government – the latter was perceived as an integral part of the religious and cultural fabric of the community. This led to a segregation of facilities and the emergence of a distinctive building type intended to serve as a place of assembly for religious, social and administrative purposes.[13] Although the Puritan meeting hall remained confined to areas of Puritan settlement, it did anticipate (and perhaps served as a precedent for) the practice of constructing simple open halls to serve a wide variety of social, religious and governmental purposes which became an ubiquitous feature of newly settled communities throughout North America during the 19th century (Fig. 5).

In larger, long-established urban centres, the combined market and town hall remained the predominant form of civic building until the mid-19th century. The regulation of markets continued to be one of the principal functions of civic government, and indeed provided a major impetus for incorporation. This combination dictated interior layouts similar to mediaeval European antecedents, modified to meet current architectural tastes and North American needs. In the thirteen colonies the town hall's social function was paramount. The assembly hall assumed large proportions to accommodate public gatherings for social as well as political purposes. The necessity of locating this large open chamber, along with a limited number of antechambers for storage and council meetings, above an open market area dictated large two-storey buildings of barnlike proportions. During the 18th and early 19th centuries, architects attempted to lend an air of dignity to such structures by clothing them with classical ornamentation such as columns, pediments, cupolas and domes. Typical was Boston's Boylston Market, constructed during the 18th century and enlarged according to a plan prepared by Charles Bulfinch in 1809. It was a lengthy rectangular structure, two storeys, gable roofed and surmounted at one end by an imposing cupola containing a clock. The end façades were adorned with engaged columns and porticoes.[14]

When civic facilities were required in early Canadian towns and cities, a similar formula was used. These could vary from austere barnlike structures like Ottawa's 1849 wooden town hall and market (Fig. 6) to the sophistication of Montreal's Bonsecours Market where a conscious attempt was made to emulate English models of public architecture through the use of classical ornamentation.[15] The structure beneath remained a simple elongated rectangle using the standard formula, with market facilities below and public assembly hall and civic chambers above.

While examples such as the Boylston and Bonsecours markets represent the upper limits in scale of the combined market and town hall, they differed little in terms of facilities from versions found in smaller market towns throughout England, the United States and Canada. Although the immediate source of inspiration for Canadian examples is rarely easy to trace, they shared with their American and English counterparts a basic assumption that the town hall should be a source of revenue as well as an expression of civic pride. Construction of a multipurpose building that would generate revenue through rental of market stalls and assembly hall was generally welcomed on financial as well as civic or aesthetic grounds.

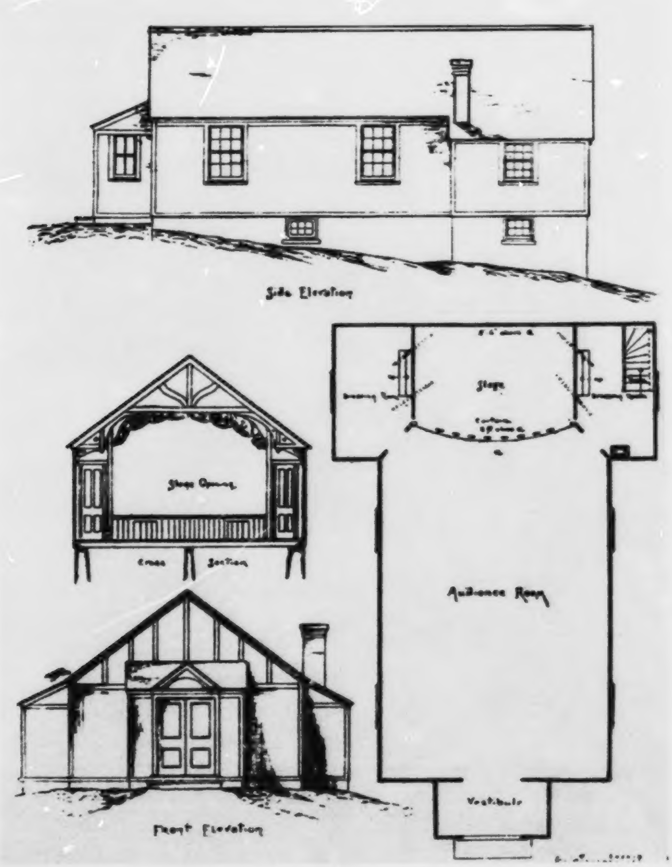


Figure 5. "Design for a Model Village Hall," from *Palliser's Court Houses, Village, Town and City Halls*, represents countless utilitarian municipal halls built to serve the social as well as civic needs of small rural settlements throughout North America in the 19th century. (Palliser, Palliser and Company, *Palliser's Court Houses, Village, Town and City Halls*, New York: Palliser, Palliser and Co., 1888, plate 58)

Facilities for the local town council took up a proportionately small amount of space which was usually sufficiently unspecialized as to be easily rented for other purposes (Figs. 7, 8).

While the market hall/town hall combination was the most common formula used in North American villages, towns and cities before 1870, large examples omitting the market component occasionally appeared, closely resembling the monumental Neoclassical town halls being built in English industrial cities around the same time. The earliest North American building of this type was New York City Hall, constructed between 1803 and 1809 (Fig. 9). Like its English contemporaries, the

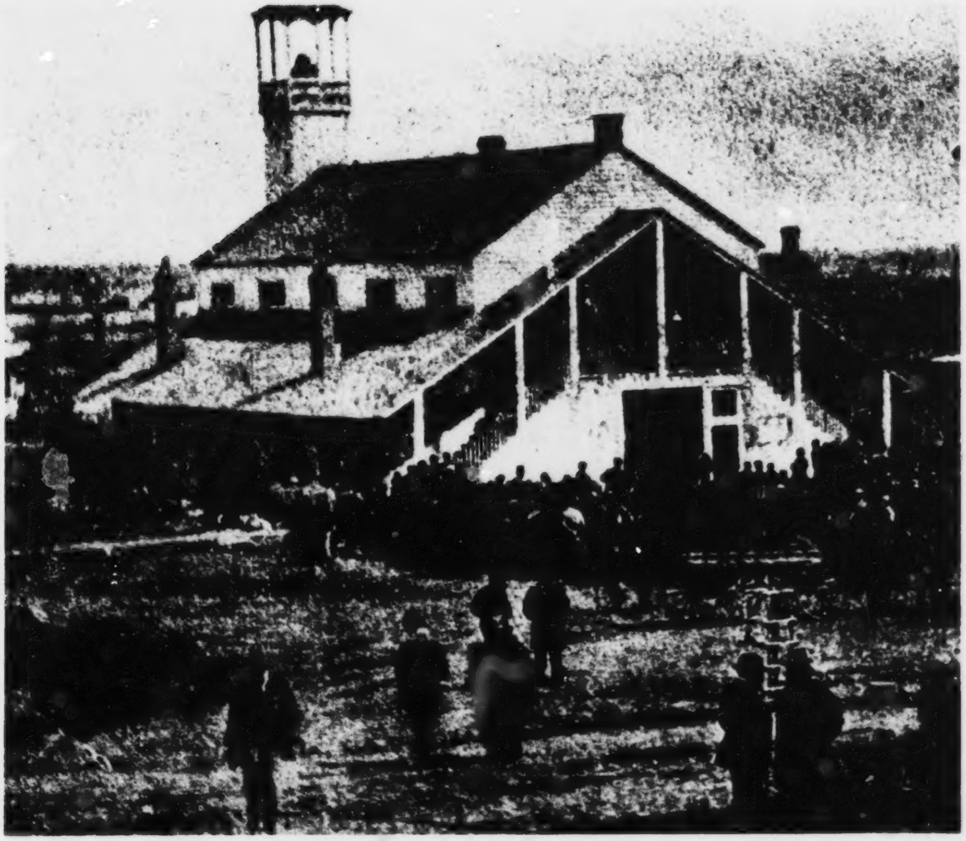


Figure 6. City Hall and Public Market, Ottawa, Ont. (1848-49). The earliest combined market and assembly halls in Canadian cities were usually austere barnlike structures with few if any architectural pretensions. (Public Archives Canada)

building was intended to create an elegant visual landmark in the community. Its interior consisted of a series of interconnecting chambers and reception areas flanking a central rotunda. Most of these chambers were used for legislative and ceremonial purposes by the mayor, council and state governor. Administrative offices were minimal, reflecting the limited scale of municipal services in even the largest cities at this time.[16]

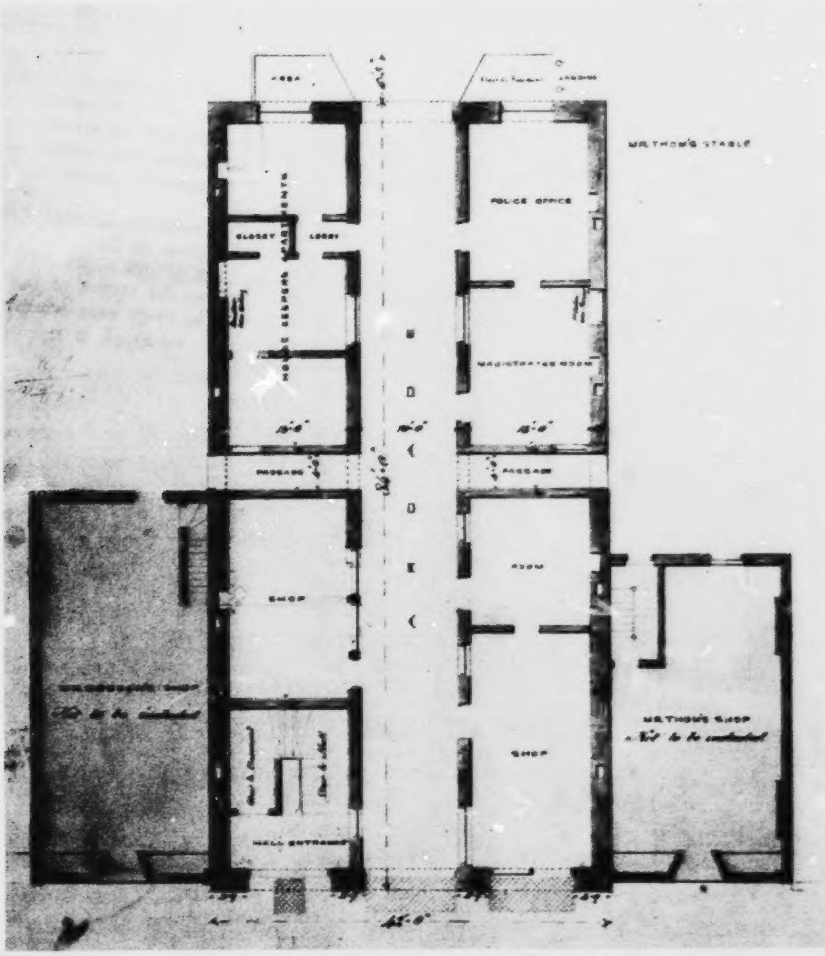

AREA
MR. THOM'S STABLE
POLICE OFFICE
CLOSET
LOBBY
HOUSE KEEPERS APARTMENTS
MAGISTRATES ROOM
PASSAGE
PASSAGE
SHOP
ROOM
SHOP
MR. THOM'S SHOP
Not to be included
HALL ENTRANCE
45'-0"

Figure 7. Ground floor plan for the 1859 town hall in Yorkville, Ont. (demolished). The building followed the English practice of combining commercial shops and civic services on the ground floor, with council chamber and an assembly hall above. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

The precedent of separating the town hall from the public market set by the New York example was followed in several North American towns and cities before 1870. Such designs invariably displayed imposing classical exteriors, while interior space continued to be dominated by large open halls and chambers which could be used for a variety of purposes. As will be seen in the following essay on Canadian town halls, such buildings were rare in this country, the primary examples being Kingston's city hall, where the market was located in a rear wing, and Cobourg's Victoria Hall, in which the market was replaced by rentable halls and offices as a source of revenue.

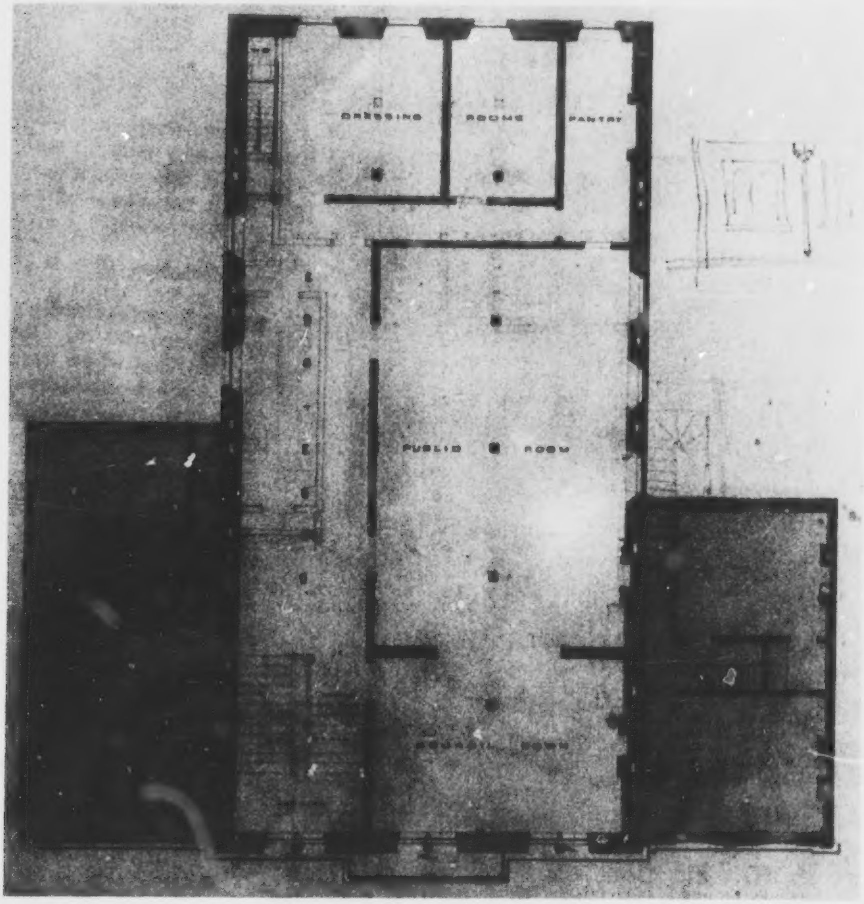


Figure 8. Second floor plans, Yorkville Town Hall. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

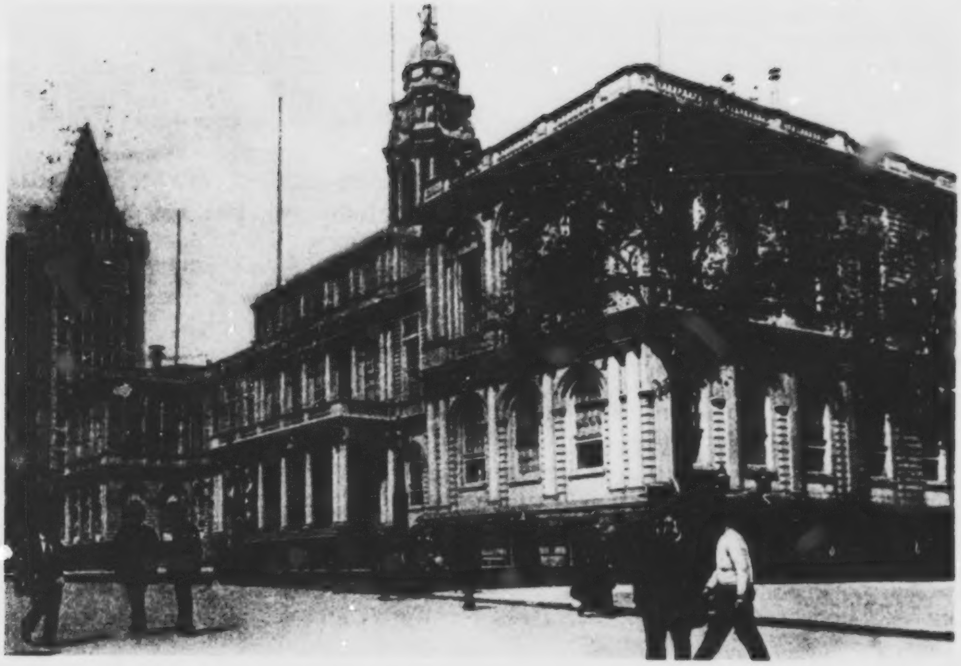


Figure 9. New York City Hall (1803-9) was the first monumental example to be built in North America. Like European examples of the period, the building's facilities were primarily chambers used for ceremonial and legislative rather than administrative purposes. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

The increase in administrative responsibilities assumed by civic governments during the 19th century was accompanied by the establishment of full-time civic bureaucracies. This trend, which had major consequences on municipal hall design, appeared first in the largest cities and gradually filtered down through local government in smaller communities. The combined market and town hall was rendered obsolete and replaced by buildings designed to accommodate large administrative bureaucracies in major cities throughout Europe and North America. In smaller communities, the combined-function arrangement continued to be used throughout the 19th century, but underwent major transformations. Market facilities came to be regarded as incompatible with full-time civic administration, and the two parted company in most designs executed during the post-1870 period. The market was replaced by a variety of newly acquired civic services, most frequently fire departments, but also police stations and jails, magistrates' courts, public libraries and school board offices. (Many of these activities had formerly been either nonexistent or run on a voluntary basis.) The town hall's role as a revenue producer was largely confined to rental of its assembly hall, which assumed a new role and title as an opera house during the late 19th century.[17]

In its most rudimentary form, the combined-function municipal hall continued to be the simple one room building used for public assemblies and entertainment in addition to civic council meetings. The next step entailed placing a multipurpose public hall above facilities for the local fire brigade. The latter usually consisted of sleeping quarters, horse stables and bays for the fire engines. In larger communities where additional accommodation was required, a three-tiered formula was widely adopted. Fire and police facilities were commonly located on the ground floor, with jail cells in the basement. Civic administrative offices were placed on the second floor, with the public meeting hall on the third level. This arrangement permitted the exploitation of the roof pitch to provide a vaulted ceiling for the public hall, but required citizens to climb three levels of stairs to reach assembly facilities (Fig. 10).

The practice of stacking various civic functions on separate floors was reflected in compact vertical designs which lent themselves to congested urban sites; it also encouraged a revival of lofty towers and cupolas which would dominate the local skyline. Clock towers could now be justified as hose drying facilities for the resident fire brigade, in addition to their long-standing roles as public time and alarm devices. Regardless of their functional value, they came to be associated with the town hall in a manner akin to the steeple with a church. According to a designer of town halls in 1902, the central feature of such a building should be:

> a central tower having a clock and a chime of bells that are always desirable in a community. People like to hear the hours strike off as they pass by, and are fond of ringing out the bells on joyous occasions.... It is also a comfort to be able to see a clock at high elevation, from which all timepieces can be regulated. The design of the building is arranged in absolute symmetry to this clock tower, this idea being considered as most expressive of the quiet dignity of government.[18]

Multifunction town halls built during the second half of the 19th century featured the various revivalist architectural styles of the period. In England, the Gothic was widely advocated as the most appropriate form in the wake of its use on the Houses of Parliament. Prominent architect G.S. Scott stated the case for its application to civic architecture in 1858:

> Few things surprise me more than the neglect which pointed architecture has met with among the builders of Town Halls. Next to churches, the finest medieval structures existing are, perhaps, the town halls of Flanders, Germany, France and some of the free cities of Italy.... What character a fine Hôtel de Ville would give to one of our great seats of manufacture or commerce... and, even

> the little market house of a country town, with the hall in its upper story, would in our style become a very charming building.[19]

Scott's advice was heeded, and England became endowed with a proliferation of new town halls in the Gothic Revival style. So extensive was its adoption in England that by the turn of the century new advocates had begun to implore its abandonment:

> Great towers and gaunt pointed roofs offered the Gothicist fresh scope for his fancy. In several cases the effect was undoubtedly successful, but in the small towns, where funds were strictly limited, some of the most atrocious town halls were perpetrated by dull architects with the Gothic fever upon them....[20]

Gothicism had its advocates in North America,[21] but enjoyed no more than limited acceptance for town hall design, either in the United States or in Canada. For the most part town hall design followed the major architectural trends of the period, appearing in Italianate, Second Empire, Romanesque or Queen Anne garb, or, more frequently, in eclectic combinations of any of the above. The process of design selection, particularly in small recently established communities, imposed major obstacles to the production of architectural gems in the realm of municipal hall design. Such communities often had few if any buildings of architectural pretension and no trained architects to design them. Council members were ill-equipped and inexperienced in the process of design selection, and frequently wary of architectural features that might escalate the cost of construction.[22]

This climate encouraged mediocre or starkly utilitarian designs in many instances. It also encouraged imitation of examples seen elsewhere. Thus H.H. Richardson's Romanesque Revival designs for major public buildings during the 1870s and 1880s were freely adapted for a succession of municipal halls of all sizes in subsequent years.[23] In the United States, a further offshoot was the appearance of copybooks specializing in plans for public buildings of all descriptions. Among the more prominent of these was a series published by the New York-based firm of Palliser and Palliser during the 1880s. These offered "pattern" plans for village, town and city halls in addition to libraries, court houses, and a host of other structures. Accompanying the plans and elevations were reminders from the publishers on the importance of selecting a proper design:

> It has seemed to us, in our professional journeys... that there is a lack of interest on the part of the inhabitants in those things which so often tend towards the public good – morally, intellectually and otherwise. There should be in every town the public building, in which all should take equal delight and pride. This building should not be a wooden, tumble-down, flat or mansard-roofed dry goods box, neither need it be an attic in some building, the lower part of which is used as a store-room for kerosene or any equally combustible material, but should be a real solid, substantial brick building which should be built in a proper manner.[24]

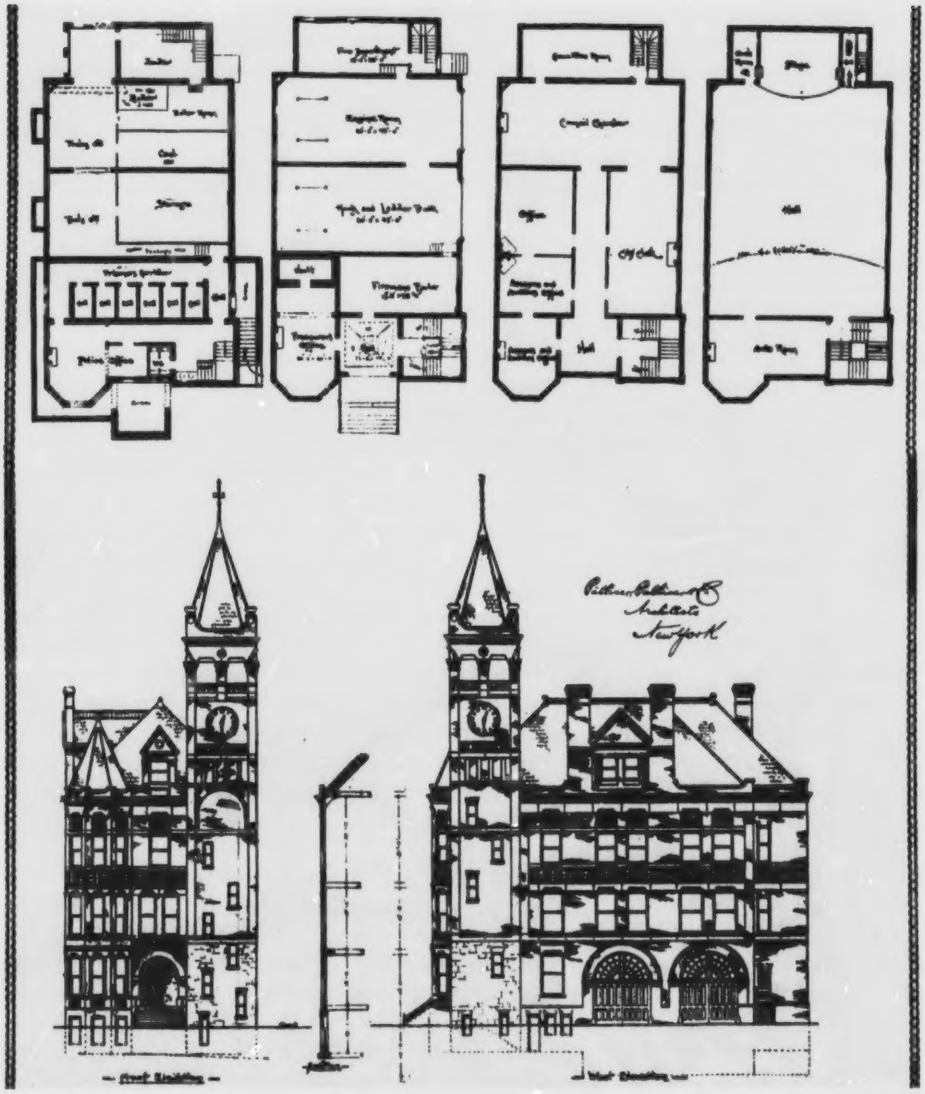


Figure 10. Plan for a city hall in Watertown, Dakota, from *Palliser's Court Houses, Village, Town and City Halls* illustrates the practice of "stacking" various civic functions found in many late 19th century designs. A jail and police office was located in the basement, fire hall on the ground level, municipal offices on the floor above, and a public hall in the upper storey. (Palliser, Palliser and Company, *Palliser's Court Houses, Village, Town and City Halls*, New York: Palliser, Palliser and Co., 1888, plate 65)

The plans illustrated in the Pallisers' catalogues offer a useful glimpse of contemporary ideas about interior and exterior design for all sizes of municipal halls (Figs. 5, 10).

During the 20th century the practice of combining various functions within a single municipal building was increasingly confined to communities where compact physical size and limited administrative activities made centralized facilities feasible. Mid-century architectural theory identified the basic requirements of a small town hall for an American community as an assembly hall, or council chamber, and accommodation for the clerk, police department and fire department. Remnants of the old town meeting pattern continued to dictate inclusion of a large public meeting room to accommodate spectators.[25] Thus the bulk of physical space allocated to government continued to be taken up by legislative rather than administrative facilities. Although the nature of local government had undergone a transformation, the basic accommodations had not changed markedly. Nor had major external physical features; the town clock, mounted in a tower or cupola, continued to be regarded as an integral feature making the town hall readily recognizable as a building type.[26] To a great extent, these American trends also applied to Canadian municipal halls, although the town meeting tradition was absent and the urge to make the building a recognizable landmark was increasingly tempered by economic concerns.

BREAKS WITH TRADITION:
THE EMERGENCE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE-FUNCTION CITY HALL

The appearance of highly specialized city halls designed to accommodate growing administrative bureaucracies was a phenomenon of the late 19th century, both in Europe and in North America. It coincided with the dramatic increase in scope and complexity of civic government — factors that arose from rapid urbanization, the appearance of technological innovations and increasing economic prosperity during the late decades of the century. After 1870, services such as sewers and water systems, gas lighting, public transportation, professional police and fire departments, public health and welfare, paved streets and public parks, all came to be recognized as civic responsibilities in cities.[27] The consequences in terms of city hall design were experienced by both European and North American metropolises from around 1870 onwards, as major monumental examples appeared in quick succession during the next five decades. Canadian city halls built during this period closely reflected the trends occurring in Europe and the United States.

In France, dozens of new monumental Renaissance Revival town and city halls appeared in the wake of the reconstruction of the town hall in Paris, started in 1873. This was a vast structure constructed to replace a previous building destroyed in the commune uprising of 1871. A stipulation for the design of the new building was that it duplicate the exterior appearance of its Renaissance predecessor.[28] The resulting product established a model for other French examples, the most prominent exterior features of which were steeply pitched mansard roofs surmounted by prominent cupolas distinctly reminiscent of Renaissance guild hall antecedents (Fig. 11).

The structure of municipal government in France differed considerably from its counterparts in England and North America, and this was reflected in the interior layout of French town halls. A large proportion of mayorial duties was of a ceremonial nature, including such diverse functions as the performance of civil marriages, direction of public health and poor relief and the hosting of numerous civic receptions. As a result, an extensive amount of interior space was allocated for ceremonial halls and public reception areas. Town halls typically contained suites of reception halls and large open foyers in addition to legislative and administrative office space.[29]

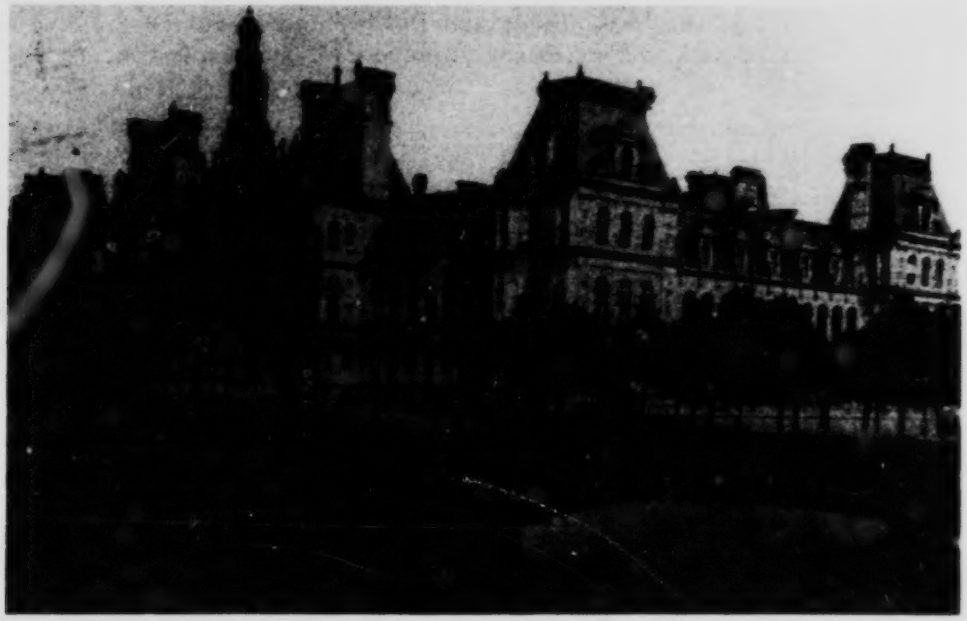


Figure 11. Town hall in Paris, France (begun 1873) revived Renaissance architectural forms for municipal hall design in France and North America during the late 19th century. The building became a model for municipal buildings of immense physical scale in major cities in Europe and North America. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

Monumental city halls constructed in other European countries during this period followed revivalist styles based on Renaissance antecedents, as had occurred in France. Vienna's famed Rathaus built between 1872 and 1883 and Copenhagen's massive city hall built between 1892 and 1905 are notable examples.

Whereas continental European cities turned to Renaissance architectural forms for their new city halls, English communities, as noted in the previous section on combined-function antecedents, used freely translated Gothic designs for the majority of their late 19th -century municipal halls. Just as the town hall in Paris provided the model for subsequent French designs, the massive Manchester City Hall built between 1868 and 1877 to a design by Alfred Waterhouse provided the impetus for Gothic Revival examples in other English cities.[30] It is noteworthy that while European cities consciously turned to mediaeval and Renaissance architectural models for their inspiration, the buildings they were erecting were frequently without precedent in terms of scale for public architecture in their respective countries. The Paris town hall measured 470 by 263 feet in external dimensions, the Manchester City Hall had a frontage of 306 feet and a tower rising 286 feet, while the Copenhagen example measured 226 by 408 feet, with a tower of 330 feet.[31]

In the United States, as in Europe, city halls became major vehicles for the expression of civic pride during the 19th century. Unlike their European counterparts, however, American cities did not consistently adhere to a particular architectural style for a prolonged period. Initially, major American city halls were influenced by European examples. Large and influential municipal halls built in Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago during the 1870s used the French Renaissance Revival or Second Empire style which, as we have seen, had appeared shortly before in the Paris town hall (Fig. 12). During the mid-1880s tastes changed to the domestically produced Romanesque Revival style, which had been introduced by H.H. Richardson and quickly adopted for a succession of major city halls, notably at Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Minneapolis (Fig. 13).[32]

American city hall design "peaked," both literally and physically, with the construction of New York's Municipal Building between 1908 and 1916. Using skyscraper technology, architects McKim, Mead and White created a wholly new form in the annals of civic architecture, a 49-storey tower that enabled the city to consolidate its numerous administrative departments within a single structure (Fig. 14).[33]

While the choice of architectural styles for city halls varied from decade to decade in the United States, a consistent feature of the building type was the pursuit of ever-increasing scale. During the late 19th century city halls surpassed state and even federal legislatures as the largest public buildings in the nation. This phenomenon reflected at once the burgeoning growth in scale of civic government and the fervent spirit of boosterism, not to mention civic corruption, which characterized city administration during the period. Philadelphia and Chicago were at the forefront in the early race to be "biggest and best," commissioning colossal office buildings that took over a decade to complete. The Philadelphia example boasted 4.5 acres of space and contained over 600 rooms, along with a 547-foot tower.[34] The building's $24 million cost brought the city to the brink of bankruptcy. What had originally been conceived as a civic monument ultimately came to be regarded as a testimony to the corruption of its city administration.

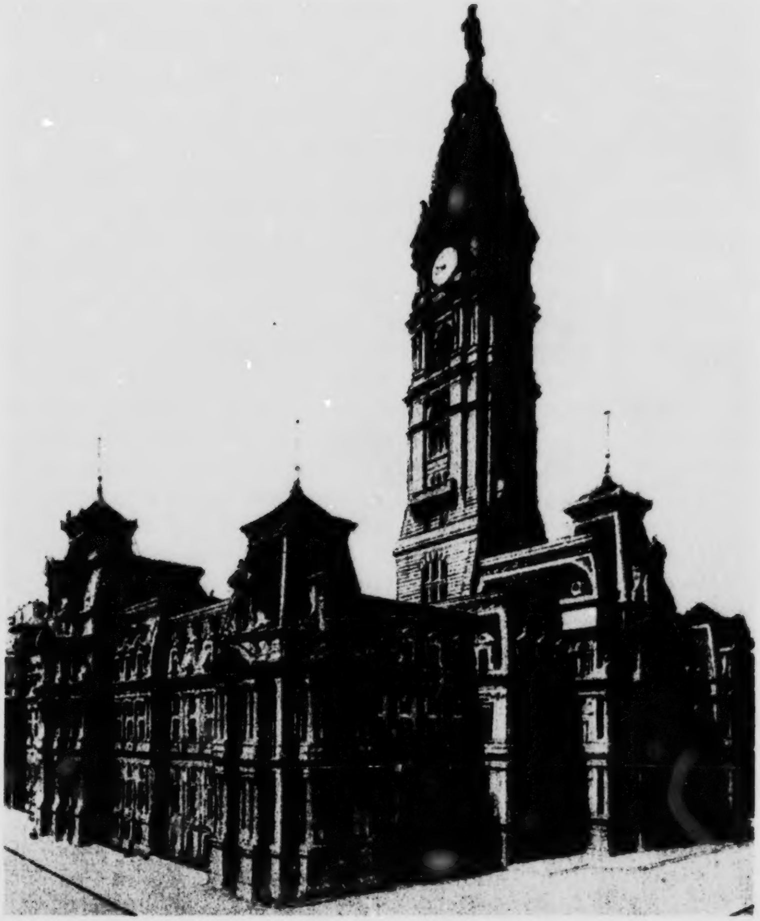


Figure 12. Philadelphia City Hall (begun 1873) borrowed the architectural style of its Parisian counterpart. It had the distinction of being the largest public building in the United States on its completion ten years later, with over 4.5 acres of office space. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

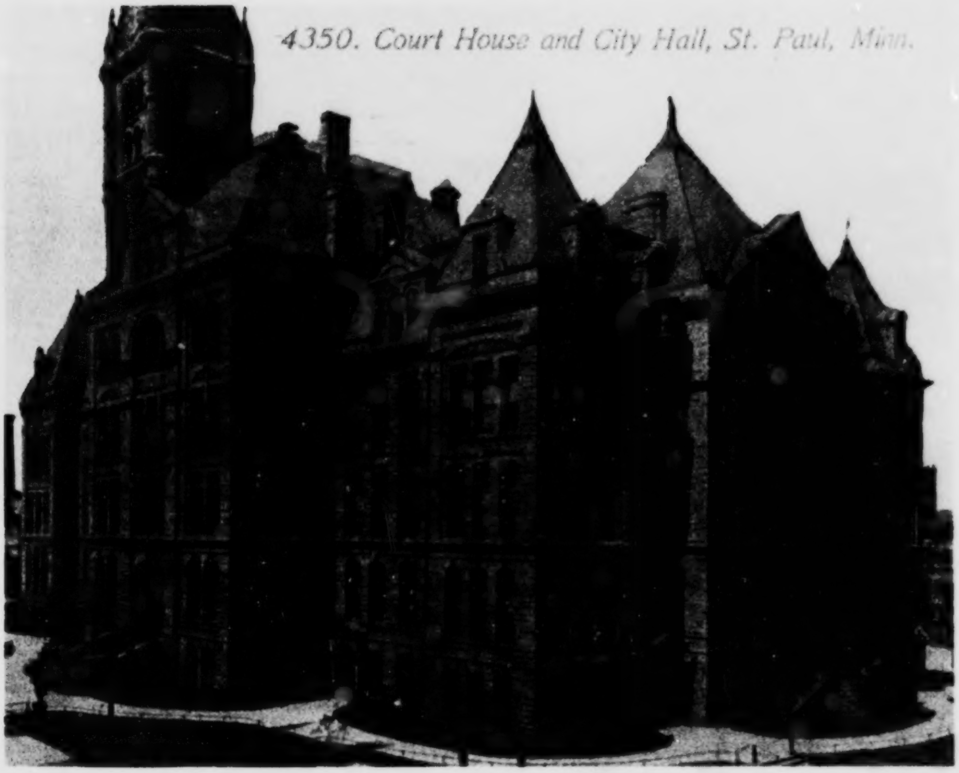


Figure 13. City Hall and Court House, St. Paul, Minn. (begun in 1887) was one of a succession of monumental municipal buildings that used Richardsonian Romanesque styling during the late 1880s and 1890s. Among its contemporaries was the Toronto City Hall and Court House, begun a year later, using the same style. (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board)

Chicago's city council, however, selected a vast Beaux Arts design for its combined city and county building. Although it rivalled its Philadelphia counterpart in scale, it cost a mere $5 million to build. The building proved deficient, however, and was replaced 20 years after its completion.[35] This was perhaps the most spectacular evidence of a recurrent vulnerability to which city halls were prone during this period of rapid urban growth: the high risk of obsolescence as bureaucracies expanded to administer an ever increasing number of public services. The New York City Municipal Building marked both a major architectural break with past practice in city hall design and the feasible limits regarding costliness and scale for such buildings. The trend towards monolithic designs which began in Philadelphia and culminated in New York had a certain irony about it. The term "city hall" also underwent a transition, from a strict reference to the seat of local government into the bureaucratic maze into which the average citizen entered at his or her peril.

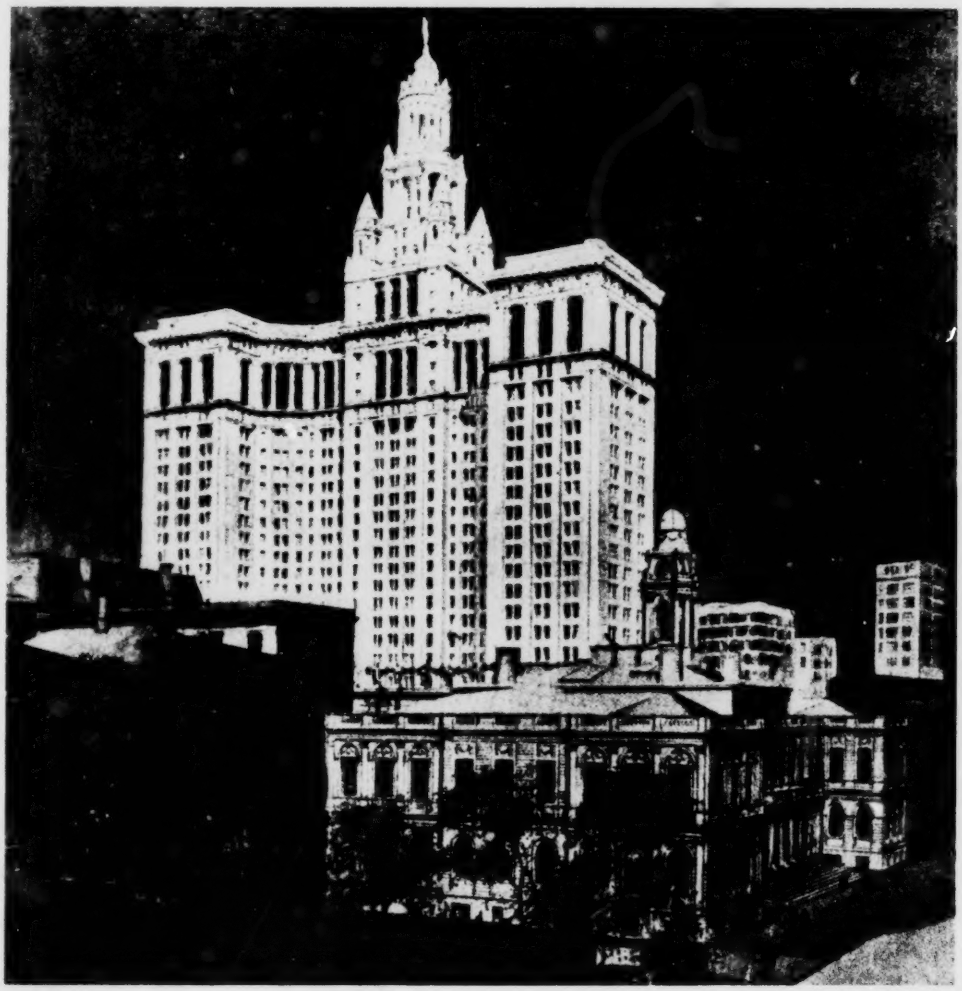


Figure 14. The New York Municipal Building (1908-16) marked the culmination of monumentality in city hall design. The 49-storey building was intended to consolidate all municipal functions under one roof. Its 1803-9 predecessor stands in the foreground. (*Construction*, Vol. 4, January 1911, p. 74)

The following decades were characterized by a reaction to the monolithic office tower which attempted to consolidate all executive, administrative and legislative facilities within a single building. Planners and architects began advocating the decentralization of civic facilities into separate buildings during the Progressive Period before the First World War. City Beautiful advocates perceived this concept in terms of civic centres – complexes composed of groups of buildings – which often rivalled the earlier monoliths in scale if not in height.[36] The city hall itself became redefined as the centre of legislative and ceremonial functions, while administrative operations were decentralized in utilitarian office buildings:

> The city hall proper then becomes a smaller, though more important public area to accommodate the more democratic and ceremonial functions of city government.... Its primary purpose is to enshrine and express the spiritual values embodied in a good social order... and the achievement of this expression is a challenge to the abilities of the most creative architects.[37]

The American experience with big city government in the 19th century was widely regarded as a conspicuous failure of democratic rule and administration, of pervasive graft and corruption.

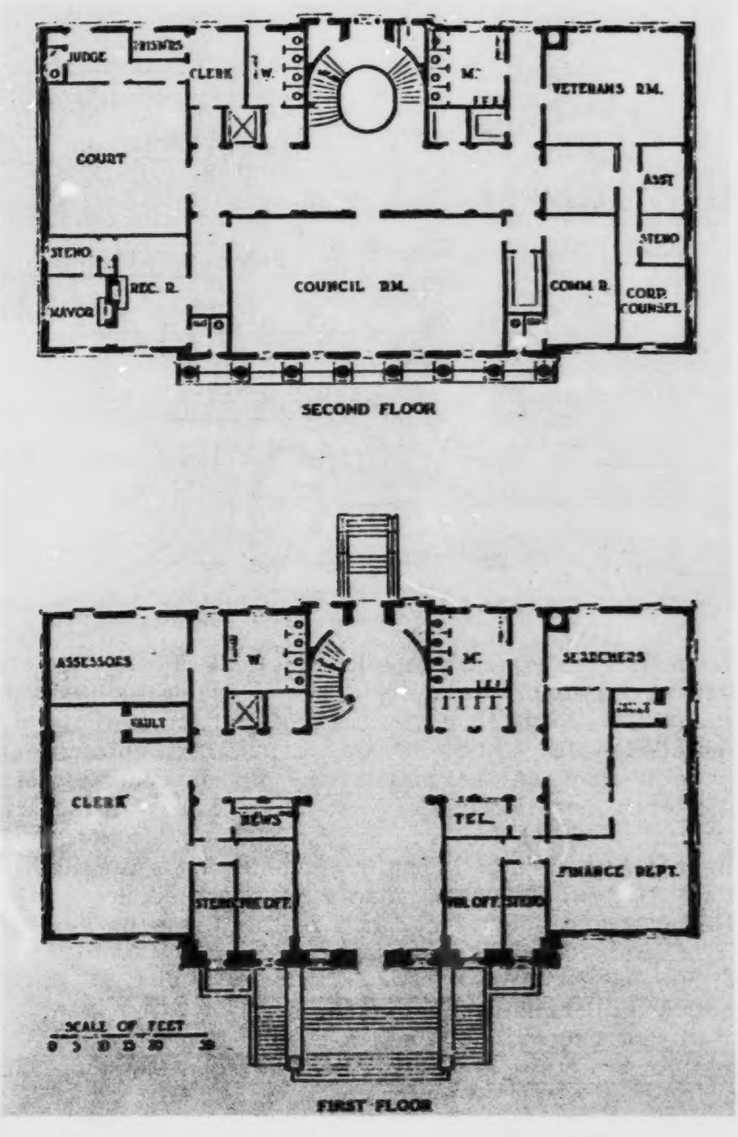
While Canadian cities escaped many of the negative aspects of this system, they nevertheless fell increasingly under its sway during the final decades of the 19th century. As one early analyst of the Canadian municipal system put it,

> In the form and spirit of their government Canadian cities have been steadily moving away from English standards and veering towards the organization and methods of municipalities in the United States. This is not surprising. The contacts between the cities of the two countries are much closer than those between the rural areas. Canadians who know most about the United States, and who visit it most frequently, are mainly from the cities....[38]

This trend is reflected in Canadian city hall design between 1870 and 1930. In terms of architectural style, Canadian cities basically followed the same fashions as their American counterparts. In several major instances, Canadian examples of a particular style appeared at around the same time or very shortly after its introduction in the United States. Thus Montreal's Second Empire style town hall was commenced at about the same time as Philadelphia's city hall. Toronto's combined city hall and court house was in the vanguard of Romanesque Revival style municipal buildings, appearing a year or two after major American examples which it eclipsed in size. Architectural historian Henry-Russell Hitchcock suggested that this building's significance extended well beyond the confines of city hall design, signalling, along with Montreal's Windsor Station, "the supersession of English by American influences in Canadian architecture at this point."[39]

American-derived Romanesque designs dominated city or town halls in Canada until after the turn of the century. Only the advent of a serious economic recession in 1913 prevented several Canadian cities from following subsequent American architectural trends by embarking on ambitious civic centres.

The practice of combining legislative and administrative facilities for local government with other functions declined after 1900. This development was not confined to large urban centres after this date. The growth of full-time professional civic staff became a feature of municipal governments in all but the smallest rural communities, and increasingly dictated the expansion and/or addition of office space, although this process was more gradual than in larger centres. In many instances the need for offices was met through the renovation of existing combined-function buildings. When a new building was required, civic councils had the benefit of a growing body of architectural theory which formulated the most efficient interior layouts for municipal halls. American and British architectural journals of the period between 1900 and 1930 contained extensive literature on the subject, ranging from detailed descriptions of recent examples to definitions of components and optimum internal layouts (Fig. 15).[40] Canadian journals, in contrast, paid scant attention to the subject, suggesting that municipalities in this country remained reliant on outside sources of information and inspiration for their choices of design. As the "Rural, Village and Town Halls in Canada," essay by C.A. Hale will illustrate, the administrative-function town hall remained a rarity in most parts of Canada before 1930, apart from Quebec and the Prairie provinces.[41]


JUDGE
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VETERANS RM.
COURT
ASST
STENO
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REC. R.
MAYOR
COUNCIL RM.
COMM R.
CORP. COUNSEL
SECOND FLOOR
ASSESSORS
VAULT
W.
M.
SEARCHERS
CLERK
NEWS
TEL.
FINANCE DEPT.
STENO
POL. OFF.
STENO
SCALE OF FEET
FIRST FLOOR

Figure 15. Plans for Municipal Building at White Plains, N.Y., illustrate trends in American municipal hall design for small administrative civic buildings during the late 1920s. The majority of interior space is allocated to administrative offices; the council chamber occupies a proportionately smaller area on the second floor, removed from the noise and traffic these offices generated. (*Architectural Forum*, Vol. 53, June 1927)

ENDNOTES

1 Charles G. Loring, "City and Town Halls," Architectural Forum, Vol. 46 (June 1927), p. 561.

2 Ernest J. Kump, "Town and City Halls," Forms and Functions of Twentieth Century Architecture, ed. Talbot Hamlin (New York: Columbia University Press, 1952) (hereafter cited as Kump), Vol. 3, p. 785.

3 "The Mediaeval Town Halls of Italy," Brochure Series of Architectural Illustrations, Vol. 8 (1902), pp. 41-48.

4 Camille Enlart, Hôtels de ville et beffrois du nord de la France (Paris: Henri Laurens, n.d.), pp. 6-8.

5 Kump, pp. 787-98.

6 T.W. West, A History of Architecture in France (London: University of London Press, 1969), p. 77.

7 Ignace Vandevivre, Catherine Perier-de-Letereau and Hugues Boucher, Renaissance Art in Belgium (Brussels: Marc Vokaer, 1973), pp. 41-45.

8 Christian Norberg-Schulz, Baroque Architecture (New York: Harry Abrams, 1971), p. 338.

9 "Town Halls in England. I.," The Brickbuilder, Vol. 13 (Oct. 1904), pp. 207-8.

10 Ibid., p. 209. A typical example, erected in Poole, Dorset, in 1761, represented a simple expansion upon an essentially mediaeval design formula: The ground floor consisted of an open market hall enclosed by arcaded walls. Above it was a hall used interchangeably for quarter sessions of the magistrate's court, council meetings and public receptions. Rooms for juries were located in the attic above. Prominent external features were a striking clock hung above the main entrance and a bell hung in a cupola which was used to ring the hours of curfew. Above the market level and adjoining the chambers was a verandah, another common feature, used by magistrates and civic officials for public addresses.

11 John Summerson, Architecture in Britain, 1530-1830, 5th ed. (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1969), p. 256.

12 J. Mordaunt Crook, The Greek Revival: Neo-Classical Attitudes in British Architecture 1760-1870 (London: John Murray, 1972), Figure 222.

13 H.F. Bigelow, "The Town Hall Series. IV. A Town Hall in Massachusetts," The Brickbuilder, Vol. 12 (Jan. 1903), p. 13; also William H. Pierson Jr., American Buildings and Their Architects. Vol. 1, The Colonial and Neoclassical Styles (New York: Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1976), pp. 46 and 55.

14 Harold Kirker, The Architecture of Charles Bulfinch (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1969), pp. 248-49.

15 Letter of William Footner to the Building Committee for the new Market Building, cited in *Mount Royal Montreal/Mont-Royal Montreal*, ed. David Bellman, *RACAR*, supplement 1 (Dec. 1977), p. 521.

16 Charles C. May, "The New York City Hall," *Architectural Record*, Vol. 39 (April 1916), pp. 301-3; also "The Original Plans of the City Hall, New York City," *American Architect and Building News*, Vol. 92 (Feb. 1908), pp. 43-46.

17 Palliser, Palliser and Company, *Palliser's American Architecture; or Everyman a Complete Builder* (New York: J.S. Ogilvie, 1888) (hereafter cited as Palliser), p. 76.

18 A.O. Elzner, "The Town Hall Series. I. For a Western Town," *The Brickbuilder*, Vol. 11 (Jan. 1902), p. 9.

19 Gilbert S. Scott, *Remarks on Secular and Domestic Architecture Present and Future* (London: John Murray, 1858), pp. 201-2.

20 "Town Halls in England. II," *The Brickbuilder*, Vol. 13 (Nov. 1904), p. 222.

21 See for example an 1877 copy book entitled *Bicknell's Public Buildings....* (New York: William T. Comstock, 1877) which advocated small town halls "of Italian gothic architecture, a style that Mr. Ruskin so enthusiastically recommends...."

22 For a contemporary architect's view of the pitfalls encountered in competitions for town halls, see G.P. Randall, *Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue Containing Plans in Perspective....* (Chicago: Horton and Leonard, 1866), pp. 8-10.

23 Henry-Russell Hitchcock, *Architecture: Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* (Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1967) (hereafter cited as Hitchcock), p. 225.

24 Palliser, p. 76.

25 See in particular Palliser, Palliser and Company, *Palliser's Court Houses, Village, Town and City Halls....* (New York: J.S. Ogilvie, 1889).

26 Kump, p. 796.

27 Charles Adrian and Ernest S. Griffith, *A History of American City Government: The Formation of Traditions, 1775-1870* (New York: Praeger Publishers, 1976), pp. 223-24.

28 Frederick R. Hiorns, "Modern Town Halls of France....," *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects*, Third Series, Vol. 14(1907), pp. 66-70.

29 Ibid., pp. 126-28.

30 "Town Halls in England. II," *The Brickbuilder*, Vol. 13 (Nov. 1904), p. 222.

31 Physical dimensions and detailed information on these buildings can be found in Hiorns, op. cit., pp. 68-80; Roger Dixon and Stefan Muthesius, *Victorian Architecture* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1973), pp. 165-76; and Olaf Z. Cervin, "The City Hall at

Copenhagen," Architectural Record, Vol. 18 (Oct. 1905), pp. 283-99.

32 Hitchcock, p. 225.

33 H. Wisely Bragg, "The New Municipal Building, New York City," Construction, Vol. 4, No. 1 (Jan. 1911), pp. 73-76.

34 George B. Tatum, Penn's Great Town: 250 Years of Philadelphia Architecture (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1961), pp. 109 and 194.

35 David Lowe, Lost Chicago (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1975), pp. 8-9.

36 For an example of contemporary thought on the subject, see Tracy B. Augur, "City Planning and Civic Progress," Architectural Forum, Vol. 50 (Sept. 1931), p. 267. Augur states: "In all the growing complexity of urban life...the one thing that remains effectively to represent the city as a unit is the capital of its administration. The civic center is more than a monument, it is the incarnation of the city's spirit...."

37 Kump, pp. 800-801.

38 William Bennett Munro, American Influences on Canadian Government (Toronto: Macmillan, 1929), p. 99.

39 Hitchcock, p. 225.

40 For example: "The Town Hall Series," a group of four articles containing proposed plans for small town halls in various regions of the United States, appearing in The Brickbuilder, Vol. 11 (Jan., March and Nov. 1902 and Jan. 1903); Charles G. Loring, "The Small Town Hall," Architectural Forum, Vol. 43 (Nov. 1925); and "Town Halls in England. II," The Brickbuilder, Vol. 13 (Nov. 1904).

41 Special mention should be given to my colleague C.A. Hale for her contribution in the preparation of this essay.

II. MONUMENTAL TOWN AND CITY HALLS IN CANADA

G.E. Mills

INTRODUCTION

In every country certain communities rise to national or regional prominence as political, commercial or industrial metropolises. The municipal hall in such communities frequently reflects this stature through its scale and sophistication relative to comparable buildings in communities of lesser size and importance. In most parts of Canada the rise of dominant urban centres has been a relatively recent phenomenon, occurring in areas such as the Maritimes and Ontario during the early to mid-19th century and in the western provinces as late as the first decade of this century. The rise from infancy to metropolitan status was often achieved in a matter of decades, and frequently after intense rivalry with neighbouring communities with similar aspirations.

Viewed within this context, the early large-scale town and city halls occasionally played a vital role aside from the utilitarian one of housing the offices of local government. Communities were sometimes tempted to overbuild on the optimistic assumption that they would ultimately grow to require a monumental city hall. Such buildings could also be justified by the hope that the existence of impressive facilities would attract new administrative and commercial tenants. In short, the distinction between the monumental type of municipal building to be discussed in this essay and those dealt with in "Rural, Village and Town Halls in Canada" by C.A. Hale (next essay) was often a matter of intent or aspiration, rather than real physical requirements, at least during the early stages of urban growth while intertown rivalries flourished. Once a community had gained ascendancy, its choice of city hall design tended to be linked increasingly to the immediate and ever-growing accommodation needs of its municipal government.

Early city hall design in Canada followed patterns occurring in Europe, and, during the late 19th century, in the United States, with little evidence of local innovation. The limited scale of civic government in cities of all sizes before 1870 was apparent in the earliest examples which were invariably combined-function in layout, and usually contained a public hall, market and offices. After 1870, the practice of combining municipal administrative facilities with specialized public safety services became infrequent in large-scale designs and was generally confined to communities with populations under 12 000.

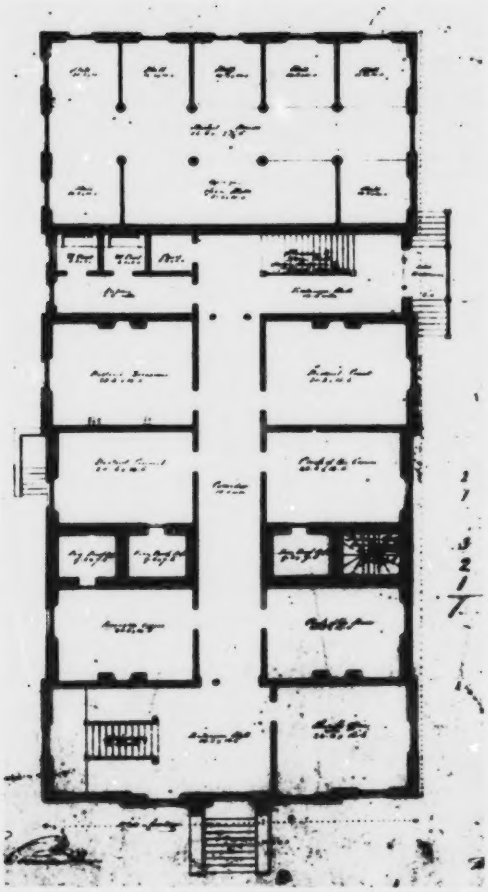
Fifty buildings have been identified as monumental town or city halls for the purposes of this study. This relative scarcity is not surprising when one recalls that until the present century, Canada contained no more than five cities with populations of 50 000 or more. In 1871 just 20 communities contained 5000 inhabitants — three in the Maritimes, five in Quebec and 12 in Ontario.[1] The urge or need to construct monumental civic buildings was initially confined to Ontario, the Maritimes and Montreal. The absence of other large examples in Quebec is noteworthy: Quebec City, the second or third largest city in Canada during the first half of the century, continued to use a converted residence as its city hall until the 1890s.

The pre-1870 period was dominated numerically by Ontario examples, while major Maritime city halls date mainly from the 1870s and 1880s. Large-scale city halls began to appear in Manitoba and British Columbia around 1880, but the majority of western examples date from after 1900. Most Quebec buildings also date from this later period, when a succession appeared in suburban communities in the greater Montreal area as well as in recently established company towns.

COMBINED-FUNCTION CITY HALLS

All large-scale municipal halls built in Canada before 1870 fall within the combined-function category. The majority of these featured large public markets and public assembly halls, in addition to limited office space for civic purposes. While the buildings located in the large cities of Montreal and Toronto were constructed to meet existing civic needs, other examples from the period were the products of intertown rivalry for dominance as regional administrative and trading centres. The town halls located in the Ontario communities of Niagara-on-the-Lake (1847-48), St. Catharines (1848-49), Guelph (1856-57), Cobourg (1856-57) and Brockville (1862-63) fall within this grouping. Although varying considerably in scale and facilities, all represented massive expenditures for their communities, none of which exceeded 5000 in population at the time of construction. They represent early attempts to achieve monumental civic buildings by including extensive rental space and most were the products of architectural competitions sponsored by civic administrations anxious to promote their town's commercial interests. In these respects they differed from the utilitarian buildings being erected by more frugally minded communities of the period, as described in the essay "Rural, Village and Town Halls in Canada," by C.A. Hale. To this group may be added the larger, more sophisticated Kingston City Hall (1843-44) which was also prompted by anticipated rather than current civic needs.

The compact building constructed by the small community of Niagara-on-the-Lake in hopes of retaining the county seat illustrates the diversity of occupants in municipal halls of this type. The basement contained market stalls, while the ground floor housed a jail, council chamber and four offices, with a court room on the floor above (Figs. 1, 2).[2] At Guelph and Cobourg, considerably larger, more complex designs were justified on the grounds of increased revenues through office and market rentals. At Guelph, architect William Thomas located extensive market facilities in the basement and ground floor of a side wing. A



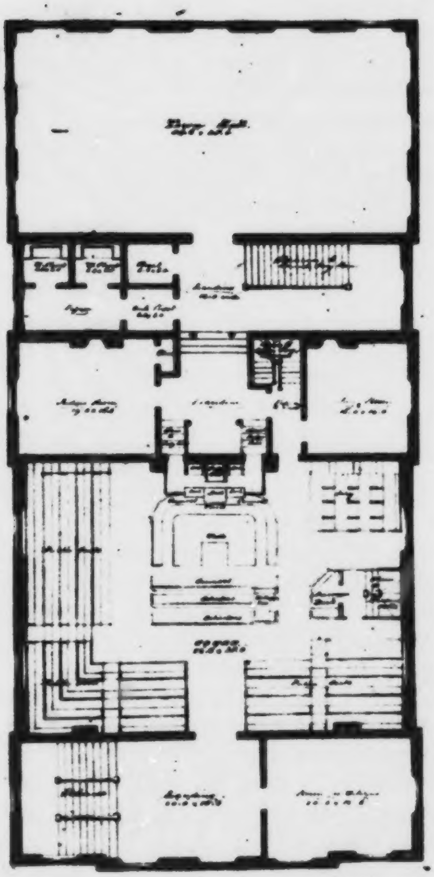


Figure 1. (left) Ground plan for the combined town hall and court house at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. (dated 1846). This early multifunction design combined facilities for the county court, registry office, sheriff, public market, jail, public assembly hall and town offices within a single compact building. (Archives of Ontario)

Figure 2. (right) First floor plan for the combined town hall and court house at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. (Archives of Ontario) combination courtroom and assembly hall capable of seating 500 persons was located above the market section, while facilities for a fire brigade, police department, lockup and council chamber occupied another wing on the opposite side. The central portion of the U-shaped building provided accommodation for the city clerk, a library and Mechanic's Institute on the ground level, with an office for the mayor and two committee rooms above.[3] Justification for the 108 by 70 foot building was summarized by the local newspaper at the height of public debate on the merits of its construction:

> There is little doubt that the facilities offered in the erection of a Market House will be felt and appreciated in a business point of view to a much greater extent, in proportion to the outlay, than the Galt and Guelph Railway. To be sure, it holds no chance of personal benefit..., it presents no opportunities for personal advancement or popularity, but it offers facilities for the man of business, for the buyer of produce, for the housewife.... It will also be a means of bringing into Town quite a number of farmers who have produce to dispose of, that at present seek other places where markets exist.[4]

The entrepreneurial spirit that motivated Guelph was present in Cobourg in even greater abundance. Commencing with 1852 plans to construct a two-storey U-shaped building for no more than £5000, the community ended up with a vast E-shaped complex containing nearly an acre of floor space and costing more than £22 000. Between original concept and final product lay the seductive notion that increased space would translate into increased revenues, while meeting the needs of a far larger Cobourg of the future. The imposing building was equipped with a courtroom, concert hall, Masonic Lodge, a bank, commercial office space and county offices, in addition to council chamber and offices for the town of Cobourg (Fig. 3). The latter were confined to the ground and second storeys of one of the three wings.[5] A public market was originally slated for inclusion in the building, but the architect, Kivas Tully, instead persuaded the town council to locate the market in a separate structure on an adjacent site. This marked a conspicuous departure from standard practice in Canada up to that time.

Like Cobourg, Kingston built a monumental municipal hall in anticipation of future growth rather than to accommodate existing needs. Although the town had been selected as the capital of Canada in 1841, it contained a population of just 6000 when construction began in 1843. The town council drew up a list of specifications for a massive building to include civic chambers, commercial and professional offices and a large public market. Advertisements for design entries were published both locally and in Montreal, New York and Boston newspapers, and attracted 12 submissions.[6] The winning entry by Kingston architect George Browne featured a 'T' configuration, with the public market located in the rear wing (Figs. 4,5). A pair of large public halls, one designated for council meetings and social events, and the other for a merchants' exchange were placed on the second floor, flanking the central rotunda. A wide variety of civic and commercial offices were located in the building's four floors. Among these were 14 offices for lawyers, brokers and other "respectable" professionals, police offices, a customs department, five shops, two eating places, a newsroom and a library, in addition to the town offices.[7] Originally, the rear market wing consisted of a central vegetable market, flanked by butchers' stalls which fronted on a corridor running around the perimeter; the basement contained meat storage areas as well as hucksters' shops. (The market wing burned down in 1865 and was only partially rebuilt, indicating a decline in demand for commercial space in the building.)

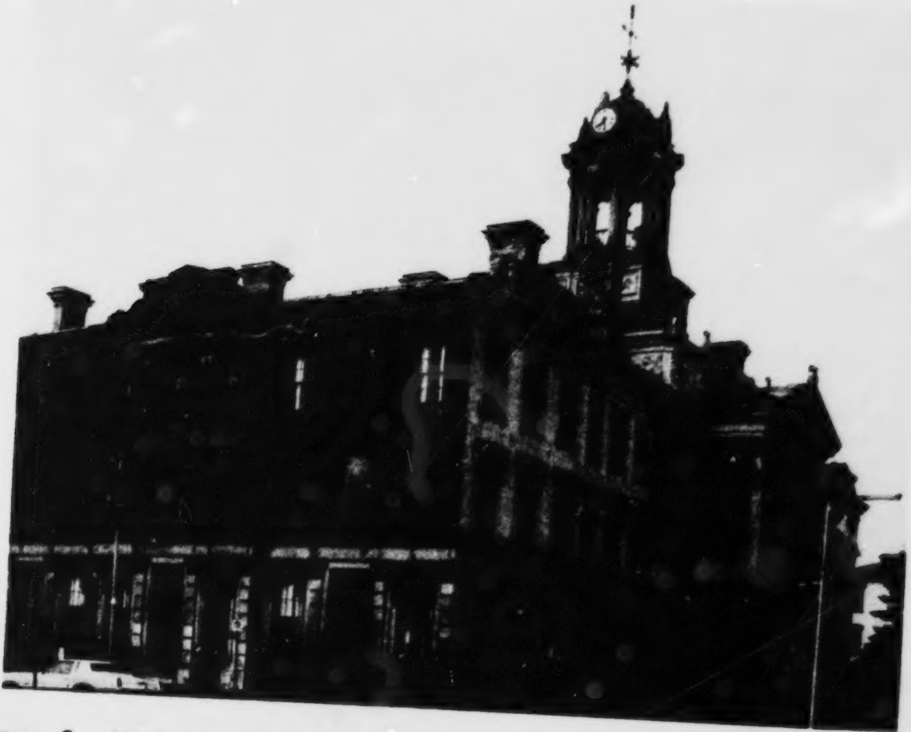


Figure 3. Victoria Hall, Cobourg, Ont. One of the most ambitious civic building projects of the pre-1870 era, Victoria Hall contained extensive rental space in addition to municipal and county court facilities. The absence of a public market within the building was a notable departure from standard practice of the time in Canada. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

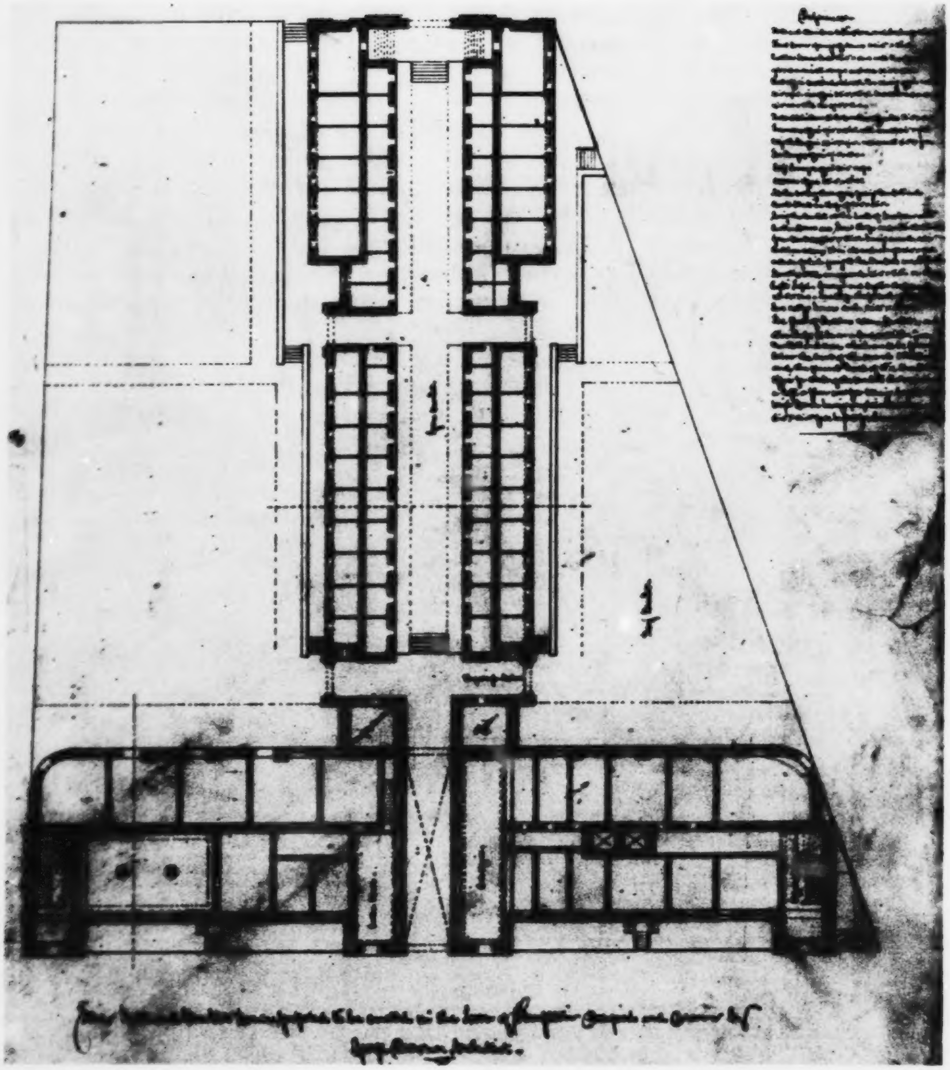


Figure 4. Preliminary ground floor plan for Kingston City Hall (built 1843-44). The earliest large-scale municipal building in Canada, and one of the most sophisticated in its final configuration, Kingston City Hall's classical styling reflected the influence of English institutional architecture of the period. Municipal chambers, public halls and rented offices were housed in the town hall structure, while extensive public market facilities were located in the rear wing known as the "Shambles." (Public Archives Canada)

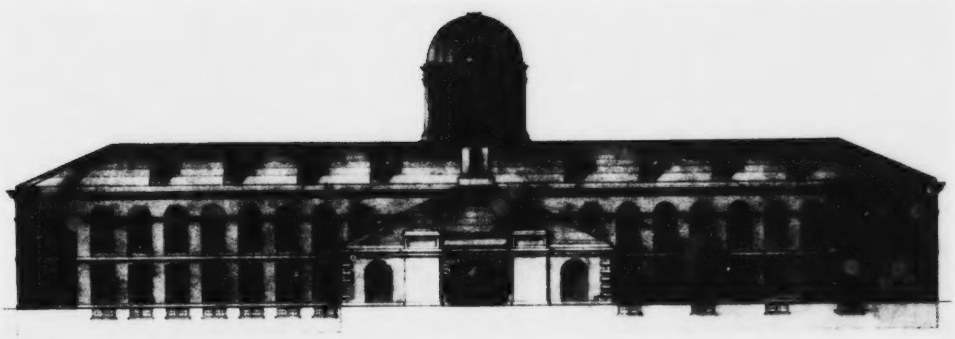


Figure 5. Preliminary rear elevation, Kingston City Hall. (Public Archives Canada)

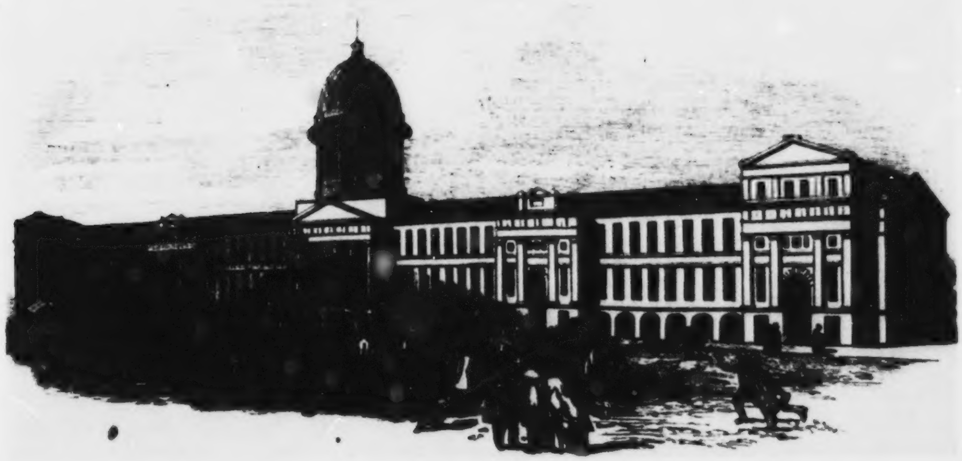


Figure 6. Bonsecours Market, Montreal, as it appeared in 1849. The building housed a vast public market on the ground level, with accommodation for the city's municipal offices and two large public halls above. (*The Illustrated London News*, 19 May 1849)

Kingston's loss of capital status was followed by a prolonged economic decline which had set in by the time the town hall was completed. An unsuccessful attempt to rent the entire structure as an armory was followed by the partition of the council chamber. One half was let as a saloon while the other section was converted into a post office.[8]

Construction of large municipal buildings in Toronto and Montreal commenced in 1844 and 1845, respectively. Montreal's population was approaching 50 000 at this time, while Toronto's had surpassed 20 000. While the city councils in both cities sought monumental designs for their buildings, governmental facilities were clearly relegated to secondary status in what were primarily market halls. Toronto's city hall was the product of a local architectural competition won by Henry Bower Lane. In its original configuration, the building consisted of a three-storey central section flanked by two-storey wings. Both wings and the first floor of the central portion were allocated for market stalls and commercial shops, while a police station was located in the basement.[9] A council chamber and civic offices were confined to the upper floors of the central section, reflecting the limited scale of the city's civic administration at this time. In 1851 these consisted of the council chamber (referred to as city hall), and offices for the mayor and his assistants, the clerk and his assistants, the chamberlain, licence inspector, city engineer and board of works.[10]

Bonsecours Market in Montreal surpassed all contemporary Canadian public buildings in size at the time of its construction (Fig. 6). Overall dimensions of the structure were 75 by 535 feet. Council specifications appear to have been confined to identification of basic facilities. These consisted of two large halls – one for civic assemblies and the other for concerts and exhibitions – along with administrative offices, located above a large public market. The plan prepared by architect William Footner allocated the ground floor to market stalls. A pair of halls 160 by 46 feet were located on either side of a central rotunda on the upper floor. The concert hall contained seating capacity for 3000.[11] Original plans for the building have unfortunately been lost, making it impossible to determine the amount of administrative space it contained at the time of construction.

Pre-1870 town and city halls designed by trained architects displayed the influence of late 18th and early 19th-century European institutional architecture, as did their American counterparts.[12] This was not surprising, given the pervasive British influence on Canadian civic institutions during the period. Furthermore, the preponderance of architects practising in Canada before 1870 were British immigrants who presumably brought with them preconceived notions of what public buildings should look like. It was not surprising then, that architect William Footner would remind Montreal's Building Committee of the parallel between their proposed building's waterfront location and similar sites for public buildings in Paris and London. Footner's domed and classically ornamented design for the

Bonsecours Market was intended to create a monumental landmark reminiscent of classical antecedents gracing the Thames – specifically, Somerset House, the Customs House and Hungerford Market.[13] Irish-born architect Kivas Tully is reported to have based his design for the St. Catharines Town Hall on a Renaissance town hall located in Perugia, Italy.[14] For the most part, classical elements were favoured for civic buildings during this period. Cupolas, domes, and columned porticoes figured prominently in the exterior designs of members of the group, with the Montreal, Kingston and Cobourg buildings being widely regarded as outstanding mid-19th-century examples of the genre. The association of classical forms with dignity and monumentality was entrenched in the public mind during the period. When architect Henry Bower Lane attempted to use Gothic ornamentation on his design for Toronto's St. Lawrence Market, he was instructed by the local building committee to revise his plans to feature classical motifs.[15] Curiously, the influence of the Gothic Revival movement on Canadian town and city hall design was slight, despite its adoption for the Houses of Parliament. Its use was confined to a handful of examples including the post-1870 building at Belleville, and the demolished 1859 town hall in Yorkville.

The comparatively unspecialized nature of pre-1870 town and city hall designs aided the survival prospects of many of the large examples. Chambers and halls initially intended as rental facilities were later adapted for municipal offices as civic administration grew in scale. In intermediate-sized towns and cities, market facilities were gradually phased out of operation and buildings that had been designed as combined-function municipal halls underwent a conversion into single-function buildings devoted exclusively to the legislative and administrative operations of civic government. In the case of Montreal and Toronto the reverse happened. When new city halls were built both St. Lawrence and Bonsecours markets were restricted primarily to their market function.

With a few qualifications it can be said that, after 1870, combined-function municipal halls were confined to communities with a population of less than 12 000. In larger cities the scale of civic government and a climate of boosterism dictated complex monumental designs.[16] In most cases the buildings are simply enlarged versions of the multipurpose town halls described in "Rural, Village and Town Halls in Canada" by C.A. Hale. They have been included here because of their larger scale, even though many later examples were located in secondary cities and towns.

In terms of function, post-1870 examples differed from their earlier counterparts primarily in the type of tenants. Public markets appeared in major designs at Belleville in 1872 and Fredericton in 1876 (Fig. 7), but were confined to smaller communities in later years.[17] The presence of market facilities began to carry with it connotations of small town administration which no longer sat well with status conscious civic leaders wishing to convey an impression of civic maturity through their buildings.

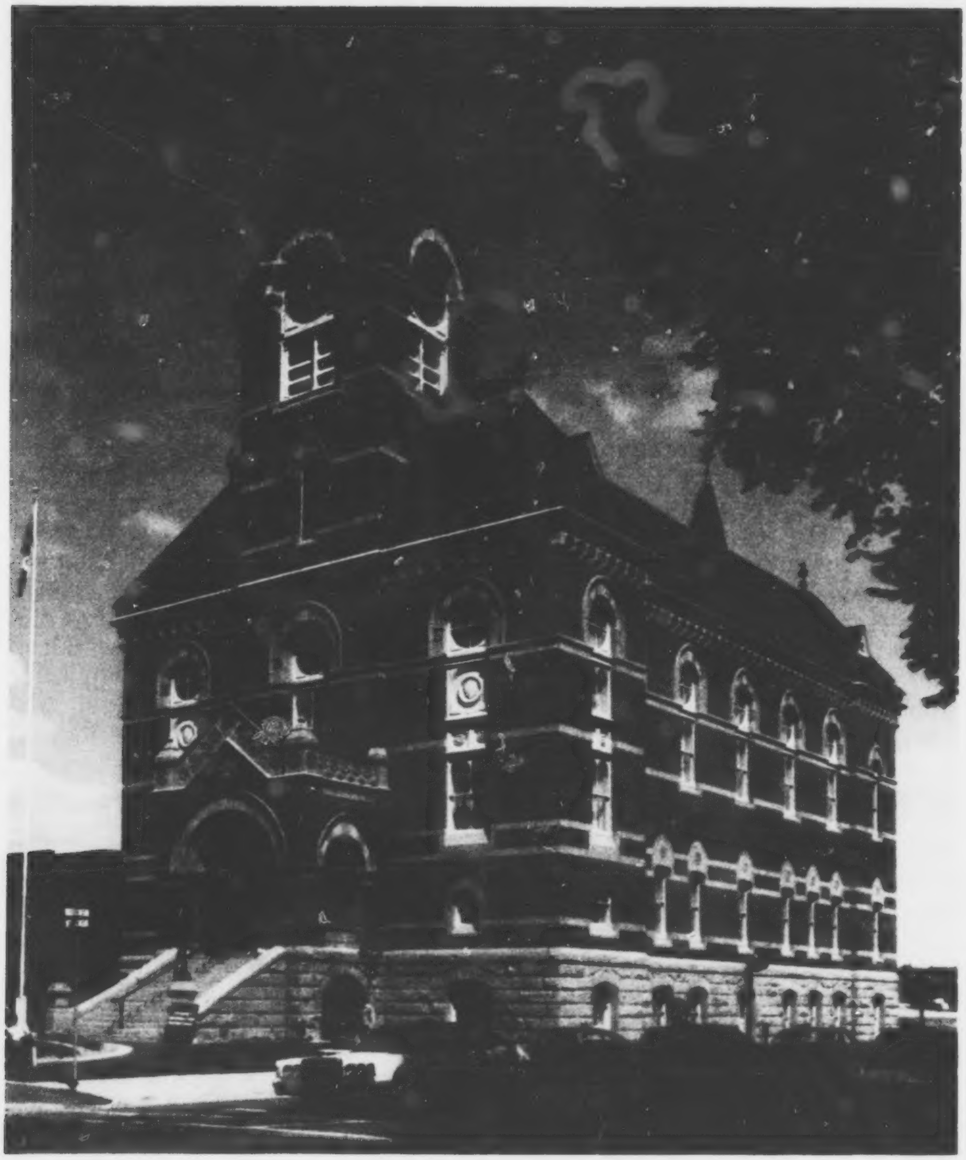


Figure 7. Fredericton City Hall and Public Market, completed in 1877. Combining these two functions in one building was unfashionable in most large towns and cities after 1870. (Provincial Archives of New Brunswick)

This occasionally resulted in heated conflict between elected councils and ratepayers over the issue of erecting buildings that did not contain market facilities. At Victoria, British Columbia, construction was delayed for several years over this issue, although the wishes of civic officials to eliminate the market facility eventually prevailed.[18] At Stratford, Ontario, debate centred on whether to rebuild the city's old market hall which had burned, or to replace it with an administrative building, the latter course eventually being followed.[19] By the turn of the century, market halls were becoming rarities, for even in older buildings such facilities were gradually being converted into office space.

A variety of functions replaced the market in large Canadian municipal halls, the most common ones being police stations, lockups, fire halls, opera houses, court facilities and libraries. Configurations varied greatly according to the type and number of services to be accommodated. All of the buildings were either two or three storeys, constructed of brick or stone and almost invariably contained a clock or bell tower as an integral feature of their exterior design. The 1888 example at Charlottetown (Fig. 8) offers a representative interior arrangement: it measures 61 by 64 feet in overall dimensions, with a corner clock tower 80 feet high. The tower also served to dry fire hoses and contained the city's vaults. The ground floor originally contained the fire hall (known as the engine room) along with stalls for six horses and a large hay loft. A police station and marshall's office were also located at this level, while the basement housed a firemen's dormitory and the lockup, featuring "four large and well-lighted cells and one dark one." The second floor was divided in half by a central corridor. On the right side were located the council chamber, magistrate's court and city clerk's office; on the left side were offices for the mayor, water commissioner and magistrate's clerk.[20]

In another combined-function example built at Carleton Place, Ontario, in 1894, all civic offices and a combined court room/council chamber were located on the ground floor, with the fire hall at the rear. The upper floor was fitted out as a public hall, "seating eight hundred, with gallery seating for two hundred and fifty, and a stage 31 feet by 65 feet fitted out with the latest improvements." The overall dimensions of this building were 61 feet by 104 feet.[21] A building of comparable scale erected in the oil boom town of Petrolia, Ontario (Figs. 9, 10) between 1887 and 1889 carried the multiple-function aspect of late 19th-century town hall design to its extreme. This attractive brick building contained a jail and firemen's assembly hall in the basement, a fire hall, courtroom, council chamber, armoury and town offices on the first floor and a 1000 seat-opera house on the upper storey.[22]

After 1900, combined-function designs were infrequently used for large-scale municipal buildings. Instead they were confined primarily to small communities with populations of 2500 or less where the decentralization of facilities such as police or fire departments was not required.

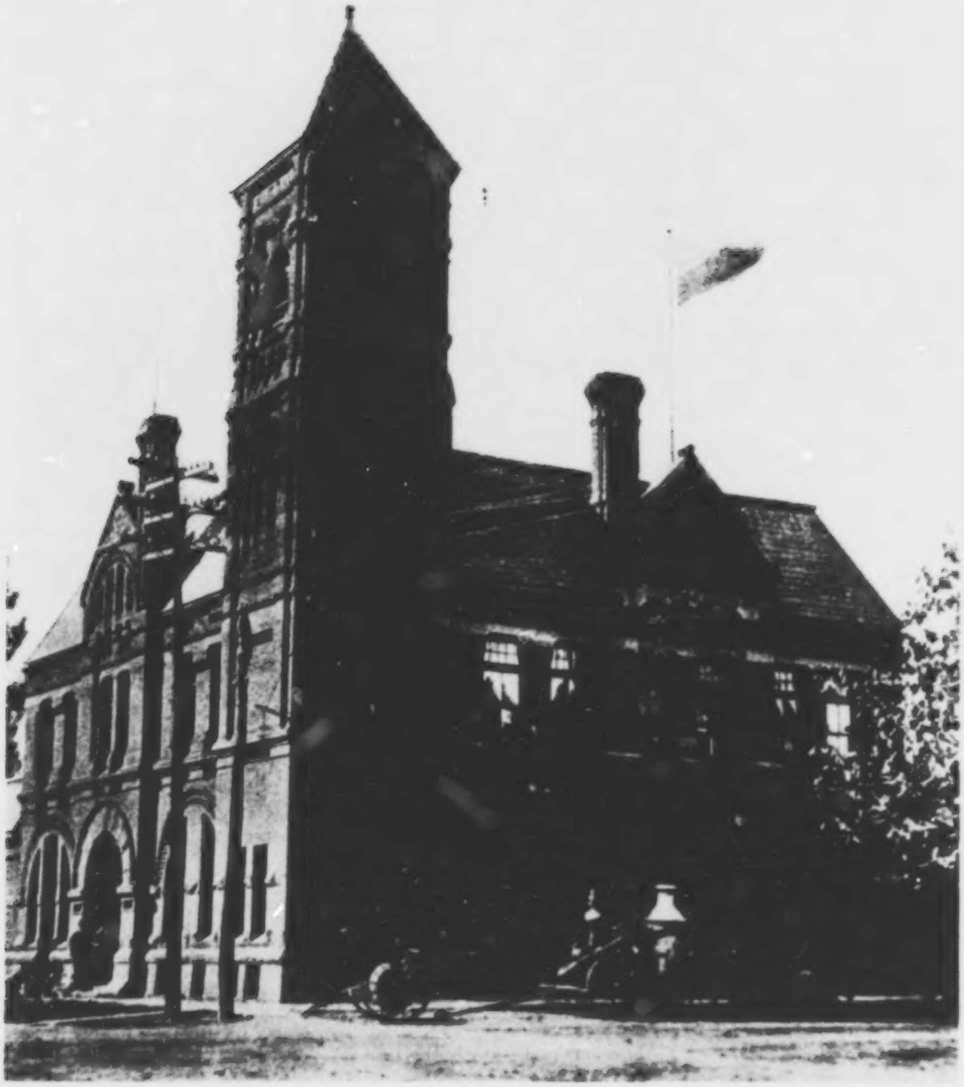


Figure 8. Charlottetown City Hall (built 1888). A representative example of post-1870 combined-function design. The public market facility that had typified earlier designs was now replaced by facilities for the fire brigade, police force and similar municipal operations. (Public Archives of Prince Edward Island)

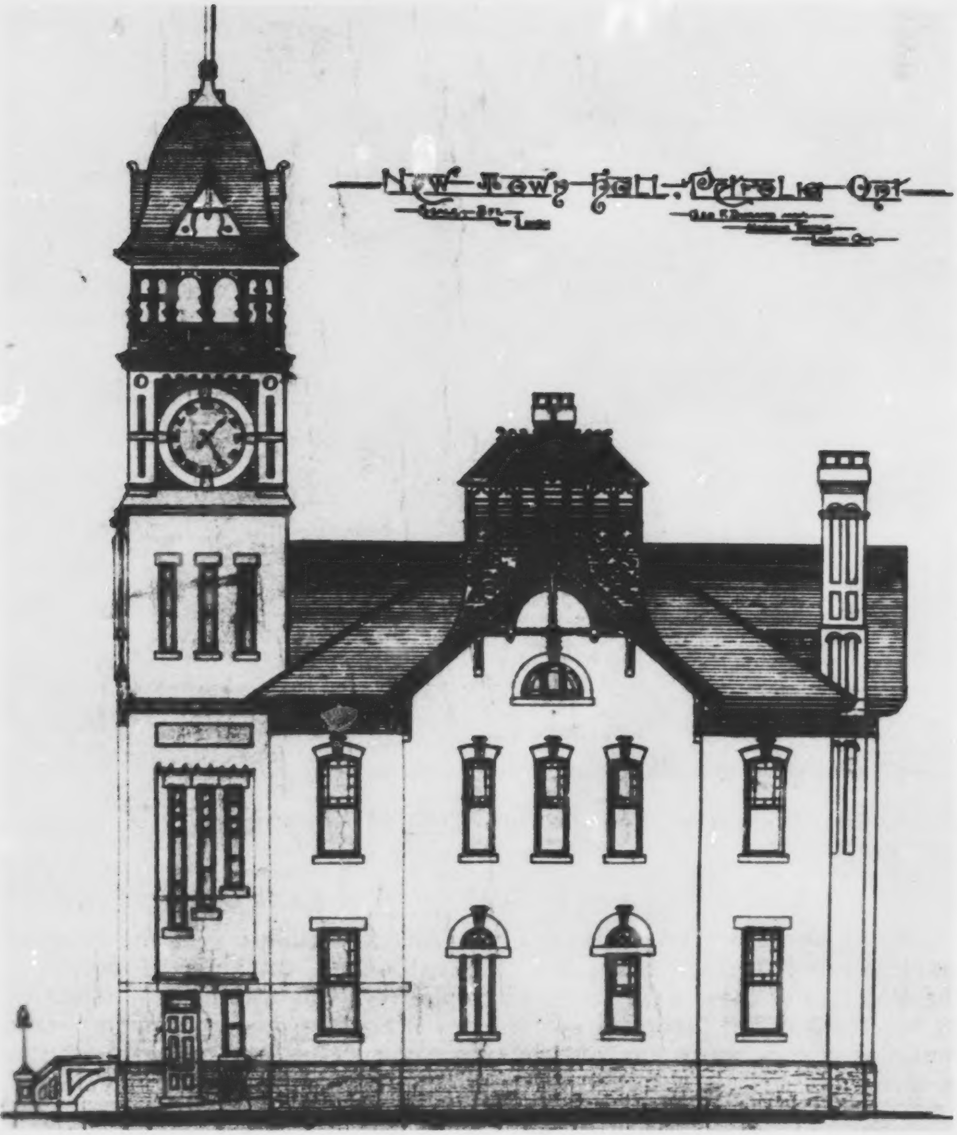


Figure 9. North (side) elevation, Petrolia Town Hall (built 1887-89). This design contained facilities for a jail, fire hall, courtroom, armoury and town offices, in addition to a 1000-seat opera house. The building was an important cultural centre for a large area of southwestern Ontario in the decades following its construction. (University of Western Ontario)

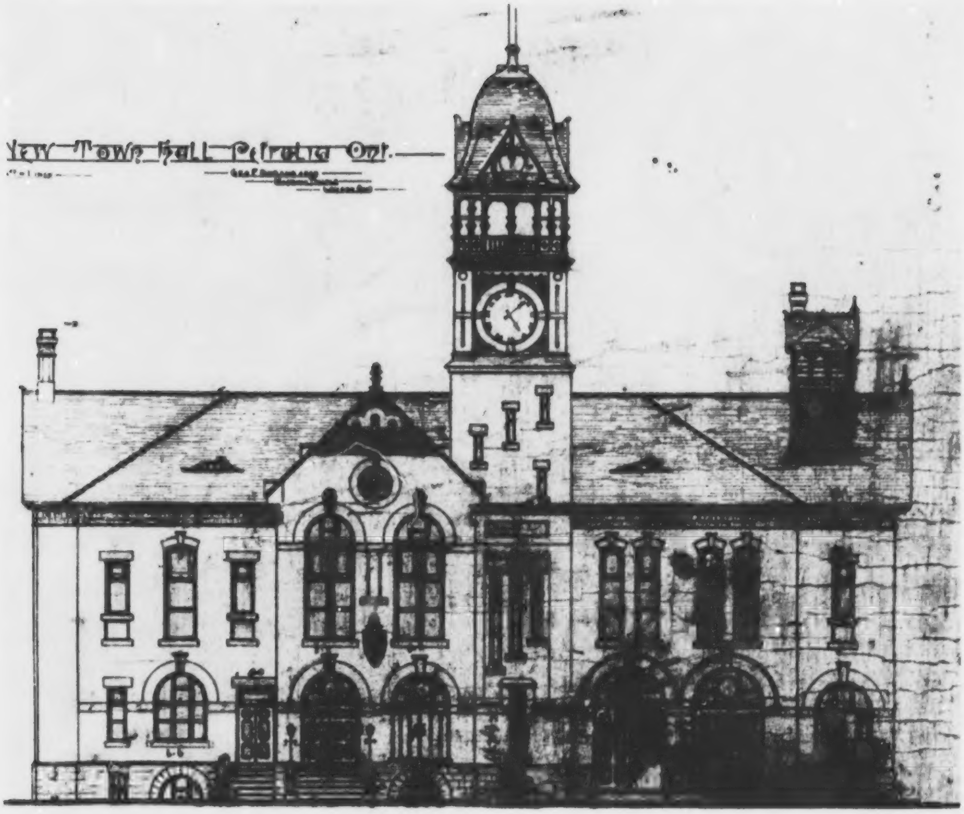


Figure 10. Front elevation, Petrolia Town Hall. (University of Western Ontario)

Examples were located in newly established communities on the Prairies and in a group of small towns and cities in Quebec. In the latter province, the majority of these were located in rapidly growing satellite communities on the outskirts of Montreal, while a few were the products of corporate subsidies in one-industry towns. In such communities, the desire to erect a monumental civic landmark continued to be realized by the combining of various functions, civic and otherwise. Another group of combined-function examples was built in several Quebec towns and cities between 1929 and 1932, occasionally as make-work projects.[23] Buildings of remarkably large scale appeared in communities with populations as low as 1000 as a result of government subsidies.

The exterior design of combined-function examples built after 1870 varied as greatly as their American counterparts described in the previous section. Comparatively few were the products of architectural competitions — this practice was confined mainly to a small group of Ontario communities, notably Carleton Place, Petrolia, Orillia and St. Mary's. In most other instances, municipal building committees simply appointed an architect to prepare plans to their specifications. This occurred in the case of all examples in the Maritimes, Quebec and the Prairie provinces as well as the majority of those in Ontario. This apparent reluctance to hold competitions may have reflected councils' unfamiliarity with the process. *The Canadian Architect and Builder* was continually carrying critical articles on mismanaged competitions for civic buildings during the 1890s and 1900s, suggesting that the process was in many instances exasperating for all parties involved.[24] Possibly due to the haphazard methods frequently used for obtaining designs, the majority of large combined-function examples from the post-1870 period were not destined to be regarded as outstanding architectural specimens.

A major contrast to the large classically ornamented examples of the earlier period was the increased emphasis on verticality in exterior design. Steeply pitched roof lines and lofty towers ensured that the buildings dominated their urban surroundings. As in the United States, Canadian town and city halls adopted various picturesque architectural styles and forms in current vogue for other building types. The most vigorous combined-function municipal halls were built before the turn of the century, primarily in the Maritimes and Ontario. The examples at Charlottetown, Fredericton, Petrolia, St. Mary's and Carleton Place are noteworthy, both for their representative layouts and designs, and for their relative lack of alteration.

Post-1900 examples were by and large more austere in design. Most were utilitarian two-storey brick buildings, frequently with flat roofs and without towers. The majority were located in Quebec. Of nine extant examples in that province, four date from 1904 to 1914, and five from 1922 to 1932. Although most were austere utilitarian designs, a few stand out as highly individualistic landmarks. Foremost among these was the municipal hall built by the town of St.-Louis-du-Mile-End shortly before its annexation by Montreal. The massive brick and stone building contained a wide variety of occupants. In the basement were facilities for the town recorder, police and fire departments, stables and a jail. A commercial bank, post office, committee rooms and a variety of municipal offices were located on the ground floor, with a public hall and a caretaker's residence on the upper storey. The exterior of the building was designed in the Château style — the sole instance of its application to a municipal hall in Canada (Fig. 11). A contemporary newspaper description of the building noted that the design was intended to be evocative of 16th-century French architectural forms.[25]

The design of the former municipal hall in Ste.-Cunegonde (Montreal-Workman) was similarly inspired by French antecedents. As originally constructed its exterior bore a resemblance to Renaissance revival examples being constructed in France during the previous two decades.[26] In sharp contrast, the former Maisonneuve Municipal Hall featured a Beaux Arts classical design, while yet another Montreal area municipality, Westmount, chose to erect a fortress-like building, replete with a castellated stone clock tower.

An additional post-1900 example of interest is the Medicine Hat City Hall, a two-storey brick clad structure built in 1906. The building housed a wide variety of functions. In the basement were located a magistrate's court and police cells, on the ground floor various city administrative

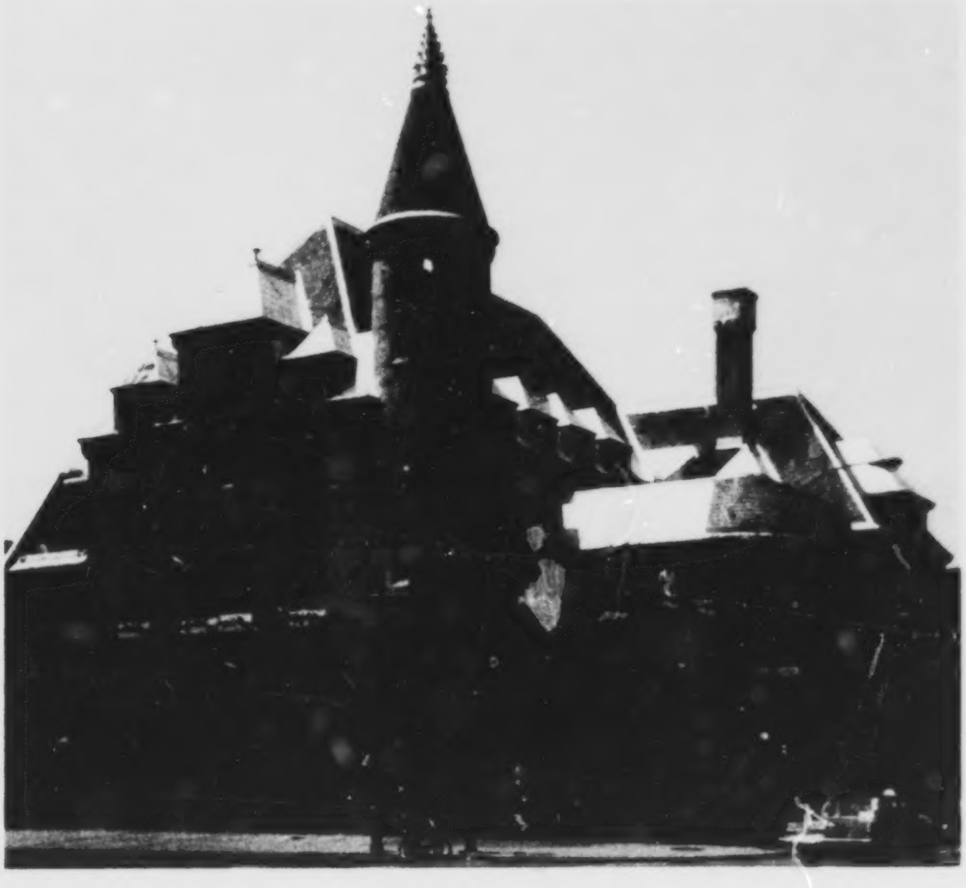


Figure 11. Town hall, St. Louis-du-Mile-End, Que. (1904), was inspired by French Renaissance civic architecture, according to contemporary newspapers. The building was acquired by the city of Montreal on annexation of this satellite community. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

offices, and on the upper floor a council chamber along with two brand offices for regulation of the cattle industry in the region. A fire hall was located in a separate two-storey section of the building.[27]

ADMINISTRATIVE-FUNCTION CITY HALLS

By 1871, seven Canadian cities had attained populations of 20 000 or more. This number increased to 11 by 1901, when Toronto and Montreal both surpassed 200 000. The western cities of Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver were all on the threshold of dramatic increases in size. This rapid urbanization created many of the problems in civic administration which American cities had begun experiencing several decades before. Faced with the need to provide increasing services and to install extensive public utilities systems, Canadian cities turned increasingly to American models, both for administrative policies and the means of accommodating them. Imposing new civic buildings devoted exclusively to housing the administrative, executive and legislative functions of city government began making their appearance in Canadian cities during the mid-1870s and had become commonplace in the largest communities by the turn of the century.

The largest of these buildings was without precedent in scale and complexity, apart from legislative buildings at the federal and provincial levels. As was the case with the smaller combined-function examples from the post-1870 period, they varied extensively in scale and design. There was, however, a fairly consistent correlation between size of building and size of city; the largest, most costly ones were confined to the major metropolises of Montreal, Toronto, Quebec City and Winnipeg before 1900. Furthermore, the hazard of overbuilding which had plagued communities during the earlier period was absent. Cities did not embark on buildings of this scale (possibly because of public resistance) until they had reached a relatively advanced stage of bureaucratization. As urban growth continued in following decades, the threat to such buildings came from over- rather than under-utilization. Many important examples from the period have, as a consequence, either been demolished or converted to other uses as civic government outgrew them.[28]

Montreal, Ottawa (demolished) and Saint John were the first cities to erect single-function city halls to replace earlier market hall-type facilities. Victoria, British Columbia, followed with the first section of its city hall in 1879. By the turn of the century, an additional eight monumental city halls had been built in other cities across the country: Halifax, Quebec City, Toronto, Hamilton (demolished), Chatham, St. Thomas, Stratford and Winnipeg (demolished). Eleven additional examples date from the post-1900 period. Four of these were built in the western cities of

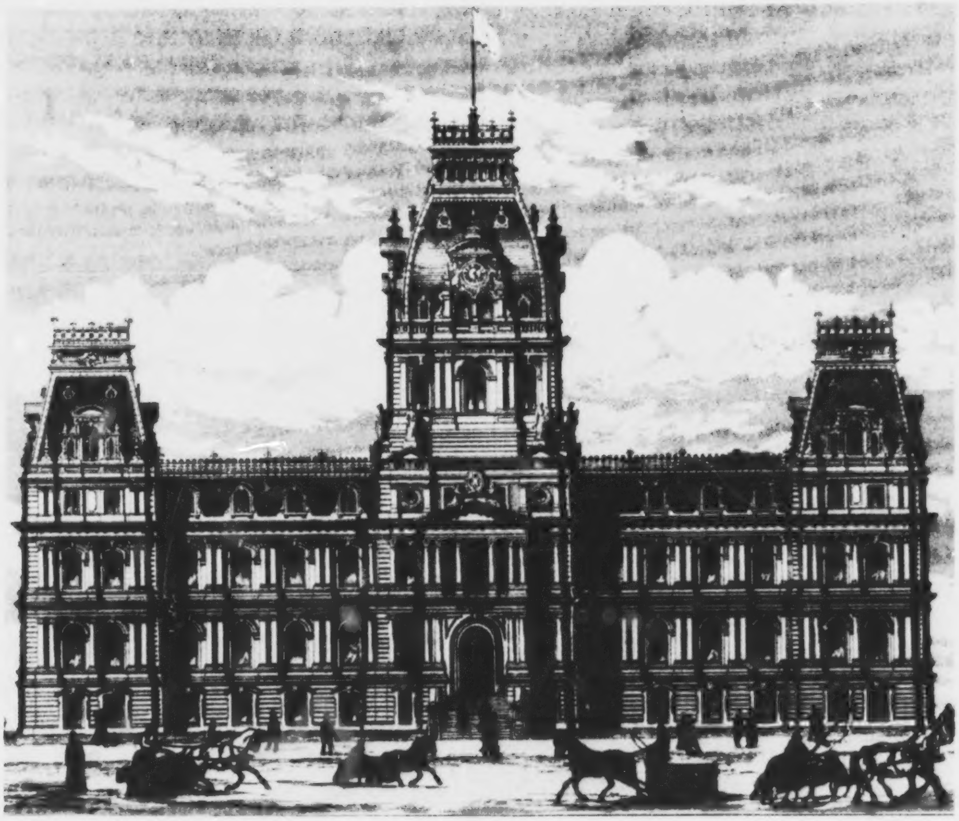


Figure 12. City hall, Montreal, Que. (1872-78; reconstructed 1922-26), was the first single-function city hall to be built in Canada. Its design was influenced by the contemporary town hall in Paris, France. (*Canadian Illustrated News*, Vol. 17, 19 January 1878)

St. Boniface, Regina (demolished), Calgary and Edmonton before 1914, the remainder located in Truro, Nova Scotia; Longueuil, Sherbrooke and Westmount in Quebec; and London and Kitchener (demolished) in Ontario. Although built between 1935 and 1936 and therefore outside the time frame of this present study, the 14-storey Vancouver City Hall is included as an indication of later trends in city hall design.

As by far the largest metropolitan centre in the country, it is not surprising that Montreal was the first city to undertake the construction of a truly monumental civic administration building (Fig. 12). Construction commenced in 1872 and continued for six years. City officials appointed local architects H.M. Perrault and Alex C. Hutchison to prepare plans for the building, using the town hall in Paris, France, as a visual model.[29] As was the case with contemporary French designs, an extensive amount of interior space was allocated to ceremonial facilities in the Montreal city hall. Over half of the original interior was taken up by open courts and stately staircases. As noted in the essay, "Antecedents and Inflences: The Root Forms of Canadian Municipal Hall Design," Montreal's choice of a Second Empire style design coincided with Philadelphia's selection of a similarly inspired architectural style for its city hall. Most large Canadian city halls built in the following decade and a half followed this general trend, although without using a specific European model as Montreal did. Among this group were Saint John, Ottawa, Victoria, Halifax and Quebec City (as originally planned).

Just as Montreal City Hall was the forerunner of a style trend for city halls in the 1870s and 1880s, Toronto City Hall and Court House established a precedent for Romanesque Revival designs during the 1890s and 1900s (Figs. 13, 14, 15). In this case the antecedents were distinctly American, being based on recent institutional designs by H.H. Richardson.[30] A succession of smaller cities in turn selected designs in the same style, most notably Hamilton, St. Thomas, Chatham, Regina and Calgary.

The scale of Toronto's City Hall was without precedent in Canada at the time of its construction. Local officials took pride in pointing out that the building was second only to Philadelphia's in terms of size. The building's interior layout reflected the complexity attained by big city government towards the end of the 19th century (Figs. 14, 15). Administrative space was grouped according to departmental units (engineering, taxation, assessment, etc.), each of which was located within the building according to the anticipated degree of public traffic. The complexity of the building, and of the bureaucracy it housed, can be gained from a résumé of functions as grouped at the time of its construction. (It is noteworthy that in each case, departments would contain a further breakdown into individual offices and suboffices):[31]

Ground Floor: City Engineering, City Commissioner, Health Department, Parks Commission, Police Commission, Police Court, cells

First Floor: (reached by an 85-foot-long staircase) Treasury and Tax Departments, Waterworks, Licence Inspector, Police Court rooms, magistrate's offices, committee rooms, etc.

Second Floor: council chamber (50 by 40 feet) plus gallery, offices for city clerk, mayor, assessor, miscellaneous committee rooms and antechambers, offices

Third Floor: public school board, building inspector, truant officer, committee rooms.

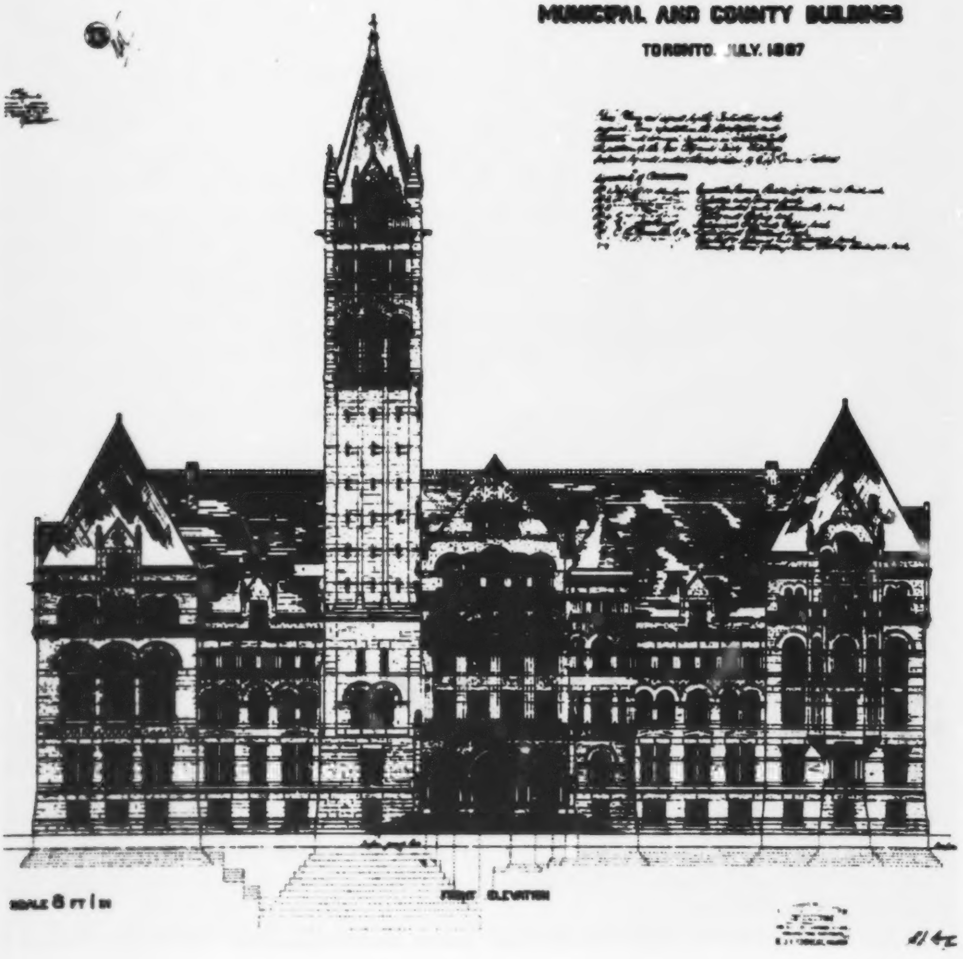

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY BUILDINGS
TORONTO. JULY. 1887
SCALE 8 FT I IN
FRONT ELEVATION

Figure 13. Front elevation, Toronto City Hall and York County Court House (begun 1888). (City of Toronto Archives)

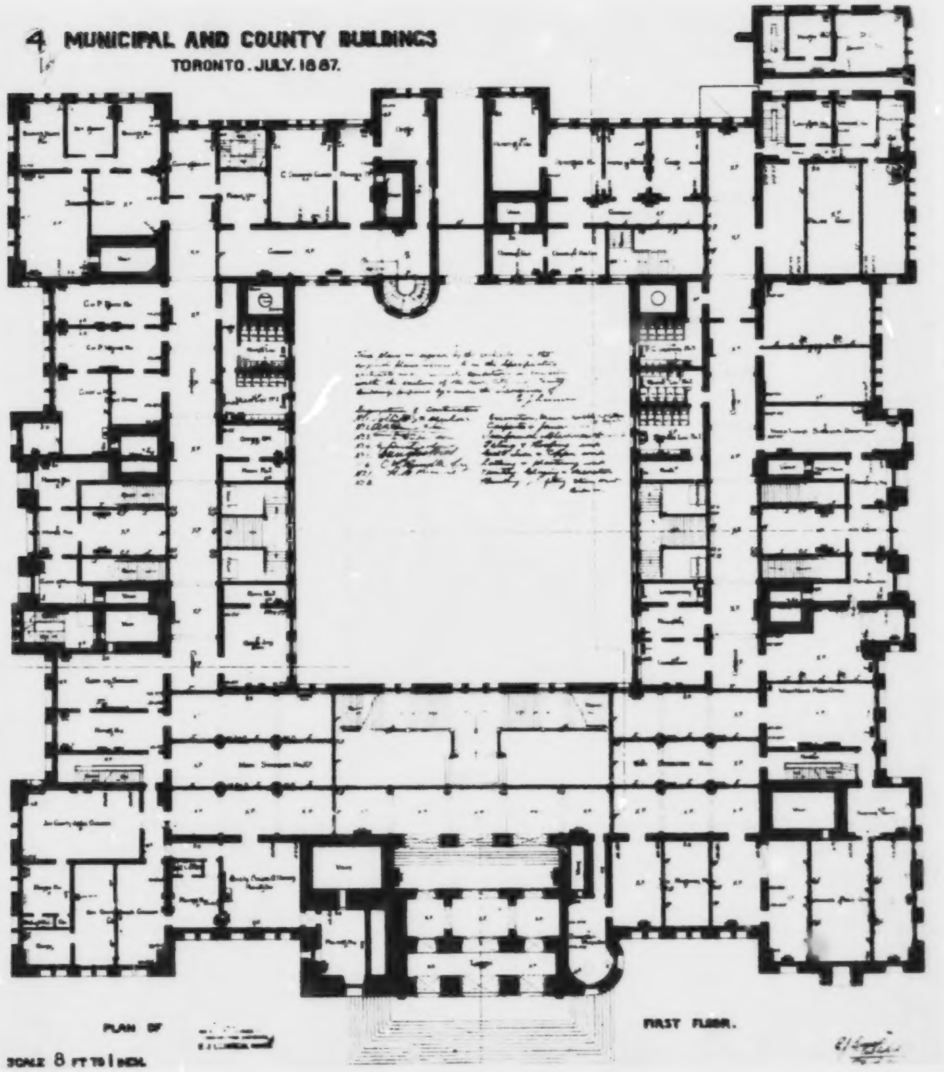
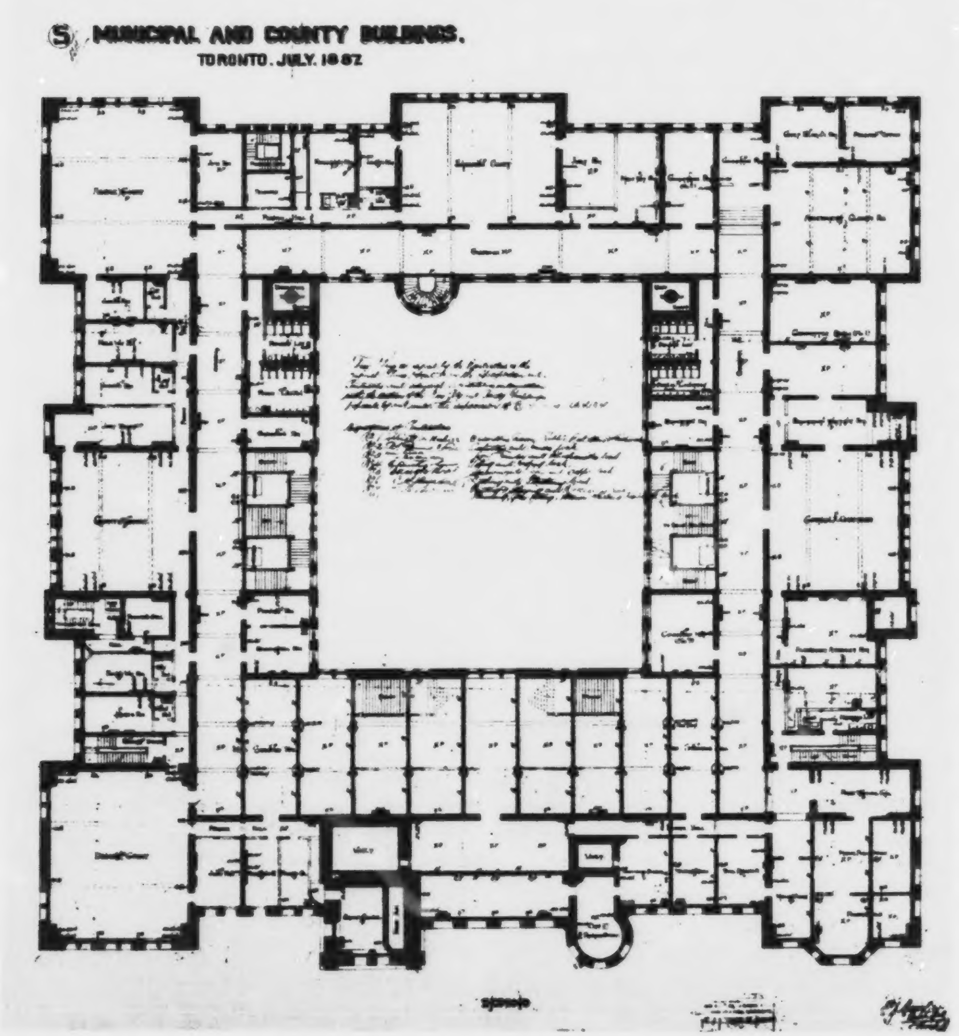

4 MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY BUILDINGS
TORONTO . JULY. 1887.
PLAN OF
FIRST FLOOR.
SCALE 8 FT TO 1 INCH

Figure 14. Plan of the ground floor of Toronto City Hall and York County Court House. This and the following plan of the second floor illustrate the scale and complexity of civic facilities in large city halls by the late 19th century. The council chamber and assembly hall, which had formerly dominated earlier buildings, were now overshadowed by the administrative office space required for city government. (City of Toronto Archives)

Toronto City Hall represented an extreme in scale which was unmatched among Canadian examples and by few in the United States before 1930. Administrative-function city halls in smaller urban centres spanned a considerable range in terms of size and complexity. Saint John, New Brunswick, a city with a population of approximately 40 000, built a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MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY BUILDINGS.
TORONTO. JULY. 1887

Figure 15. Plan of the second floor of the Toronto City Hall and York County Court House. (City of Toronto Archives)

compact three-storey building with exterior dimensions of just 58 by 46 feet to house its civic chambers and offices in 1877. An early description of the building noted that the first floor housed committee rooms and an office for the chamberlain, the second floor contained offices for the mayor, clerk and additional staff, while the city engineer, assessor and director of public safety were located on the third storey.[32] The diminutive scale of Saint John's city hall is indicative of the small size of civic bureaucracies in intermediate-sized cities in Canada during the 1870s.

Accommodation requirements escalated quickly in the following decade, however. The 1887 city hall designed for Halifax – then a city of 38 000 – illustrates the growth in scale and corresponding increase in concern for efficient interior layouts which became characteristic of later intermediate-sized examples. The ground floor contained facilities for the police department (including a lockup) and magistrate's court; on the main level were offices for the auditor, board of works, city clerk, tax collector, engineer, treasurer, magistrate, and mayor, laid out along a central corridor. "Thus," the Halifax *Evening Chronicle* noted, "all the chief officers of the city are accommodated on the main floor, where the public can have easy access to them...."[33] Less popular figures, notably the licence inspector, rent collector, streets and waterworks foremen, assessor, fire chief, and medical officer were located on the second floor, along with the council chamber, committee room, library and spare offices (Figs. 16, 17).

While layout formulas varied according to local perceptions of the most used public functions, a general concern existed to locate departments according to the degree of public contact. Local newspapers were quick to criticize apparent oversights in this matter. Hence the Victoria *Daily Colonist's* observation on the plan for that community's new building in 1875: "The general arrangements of the building are good, and if an improvement might be suggested, it is that the offices of the Water Commissioner should be a little lower down than the attic storey...."[34] In Hamilton, the local newspaper expressed satisfaction with the placement of the tax collector's office next to the main hall with an easy exit through a separate vestibule, "thus avoiding crowding usual on busy days."[35]

The shortcomings of early city hall designs served as lessons for buildings that followed. Building committees charged with responsibility for procuring a plan and undertaking construction became increasingly precise in their specifications. Thus an open architectural competition for a new city hall at St. Thomas, Ontario, provided prospective architects with a detailed list of chambers and offices as well as their approximate location and size. The basement was to contain ten cells plus a room for lodging tramps, while private and public quarters for various officials including the mayor, the city treasurer, clerk, engineer, tax collector and assessor, along with assorted committee rooms and a free library were to be placed on the ground and first floor. An auditorium capable of seating 450 people was to be put on the upper storey.[36]

The goal of creating a conspicuous visual landmark within the community remained an integral aspect of city hall design. Prominent central sites were obvious prerequisites; during the late 19th century, verticality in design, usually achieved through lofty clock and bell towers, was another. Large cities such as Toronto built higher towers (260 feet in the case of that city), in part to express "vigor and go" — in the words of the Building Committee — but also to rise above other buildings in the surrounding area. Toronto's Building Committee noted that the clock in

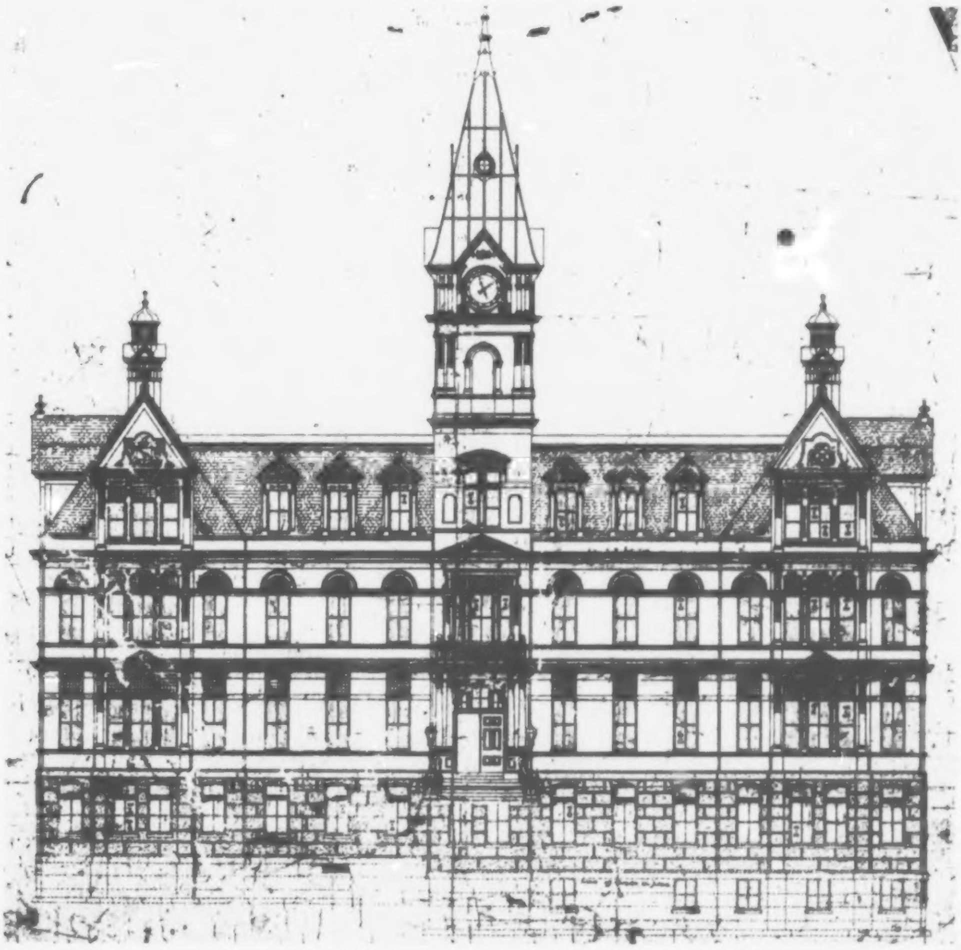


Figure 16. Front elevation, Halifax City Hall (1888). (Mott, Myles and Chatwin Collection, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick)

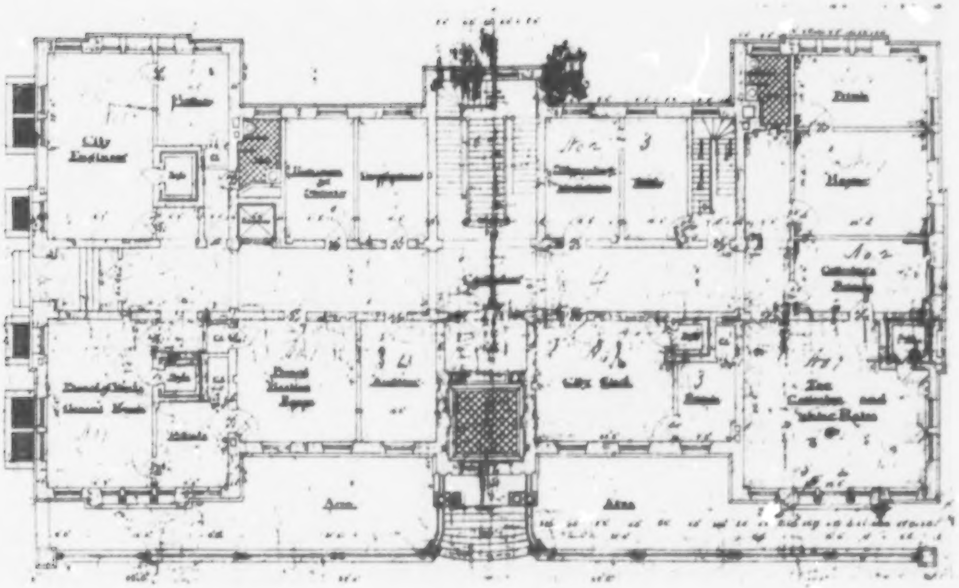


Figure 17. Ground floor plan, Halifax City Hall (1888). The rapid growth of public utilities and civic services during the late 19th century dictated large city halls with increasingly specialized office space in smaller cities as well as large metropolises. (Mott, Myles and Chatwin Collection, Provincial Archives, New Brunswick)

the tower "will be from forty to fifty feet higher than that in St. James Cathedral...."[37]

This concern was also evident in smaller cities. In Stratford, architect George King exercised considerable skill in devising a three-sided plan "presenting a dignified and interesting face towards each side of the triangle of City Hall Square, so that none of the merchants established there should feel that they were facing the rear of the building." Surmounting the building is a distinctive six-sided tower suggestive of "power and confidence," and "effortlessly dominating the square as a civic building should."[38] (Figs. 18, 19, 20, 21).

The pitfalls involved in undertaking the construction of a new city hall were numerous and were compounded by the fact that civic governments were elected on an annual basis throughout the 19th century. Continuity of policy was precarious under such circumstances, particularly when a slate of candidates was elected on the basis of their opposition to former incumbents' policies. It is not surprising, therefore, that city halls were usually "born" amidst chaotic circumstances involving bewildered councils, frustrated architects and outraged ratepayers.

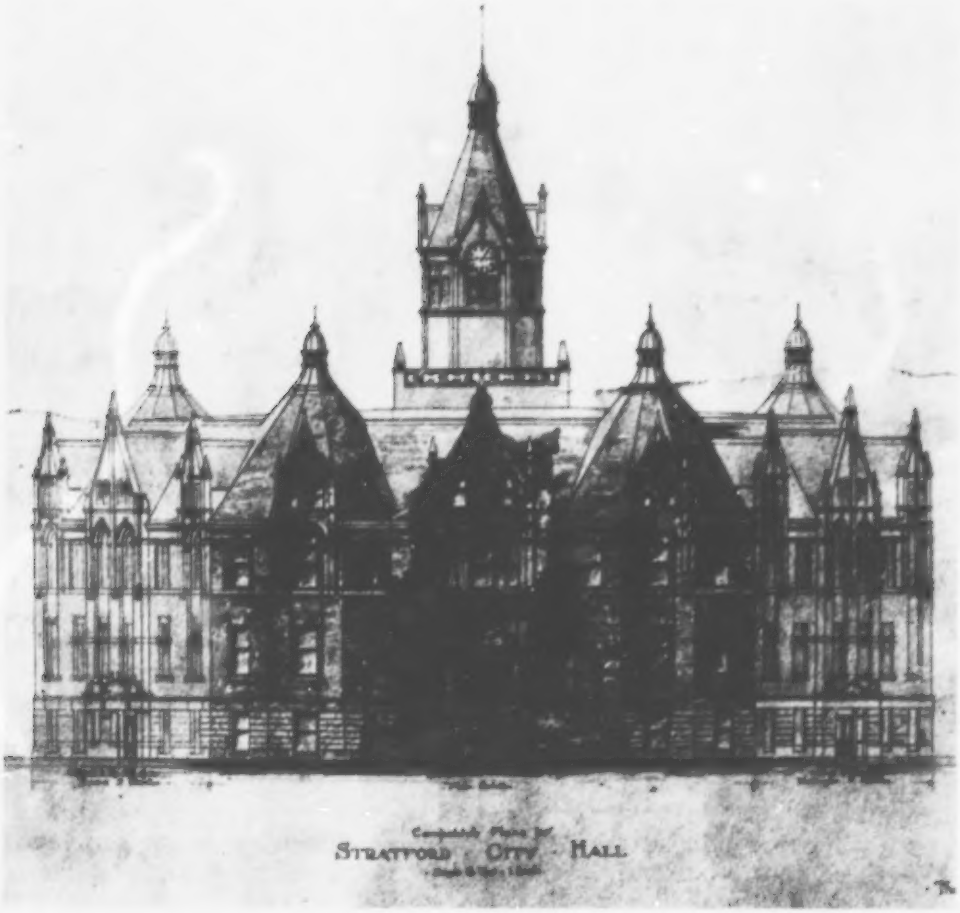


Figure 18. Front elevation, Stratford City Hall, by architect George King. The building's unusual splayed shape was devised to exploit the triangular nature of the site. The central tower was intended to inspire "power and confidence" in the viewer. (City of Stratford)

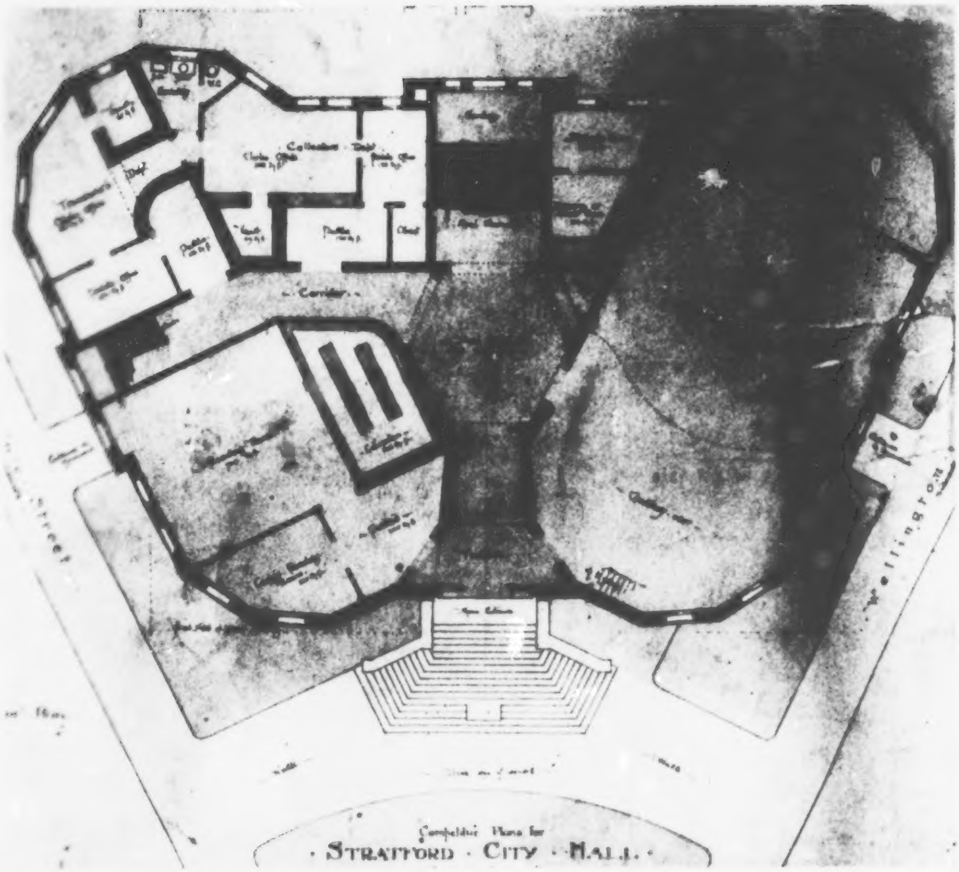

Corridor
Street
Wellington St.
Competitive Plans for
· STRATFORD · CITY · HALL ·

Figure 19. Basement plan, Stratford City Hall. This and the plans of the other two storeys (Figs. 20, 21) illustrate the grouping of civic functions common in late 19th-century designs for intermediate-sized cities. The oddly shaped site invited a distinctive exterior design; the interior is dominated, in contrast with larger examples, by a public assembly hall and a comparatively prominent council chamber (the circular room on the first floor). (City of Stratford)

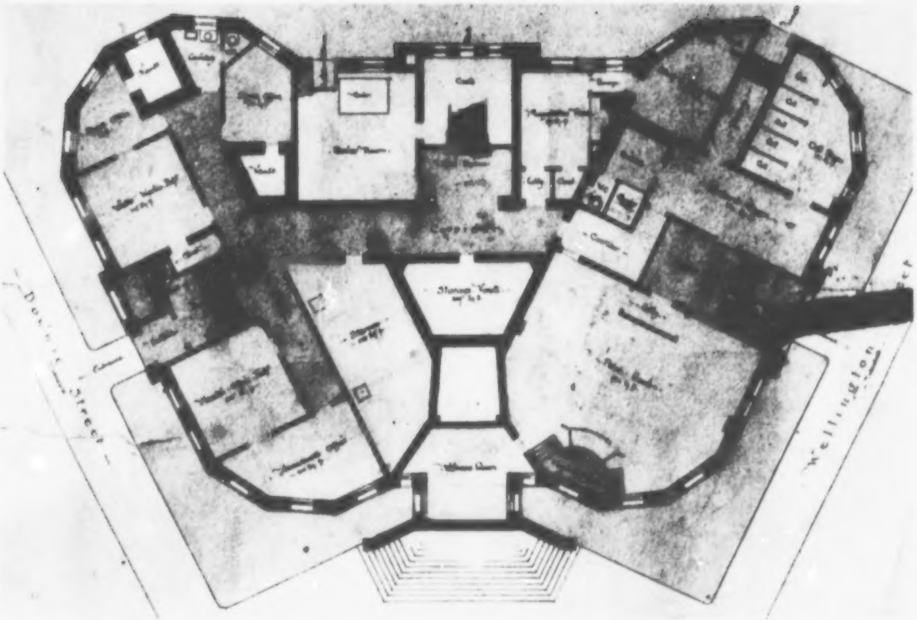

Street
Wellington

Figure 20. Ground floor plan, Stratford City Hall. (City of Stratford)

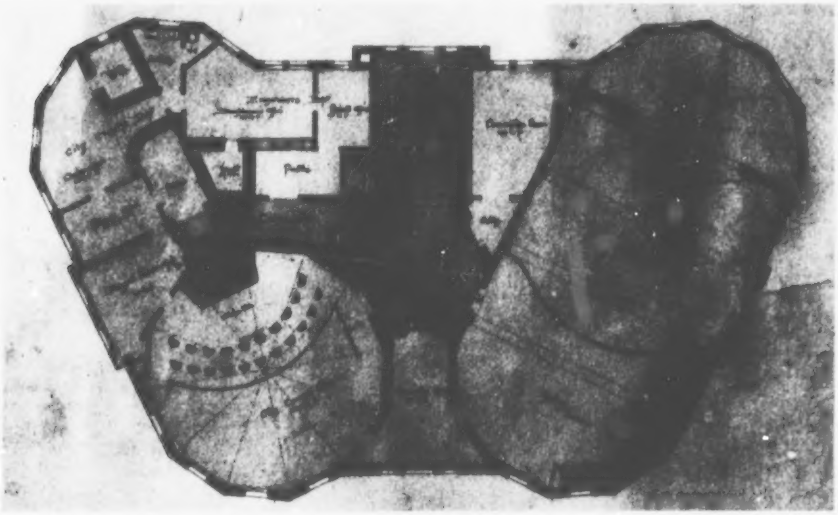


Figure 21. First floor plan, Stratford City Hall. (City of Stratford)

The process of design selection was particularly volatile. Nine of the pre-1900 examples were products of open competitions.[39] Of these, the 1887 competition at Halifax alone appears to have been carried off without controversy. Competitions in other cities were fraught with mishaps ranging from architects' wrath over the terms of the competition to public opposition to the project and, in a few cases, major scandals over the execution of contracts. Architects' objections to competitions for civic buildings were widespread, as has been previously noted. Apart from bitter legal battles over liability for design problems as occurred at Winnipeg,[40] these objections centred primarily on low fees, lack of competent adjudication, some councils' policy of demanding deposits from all candidates against possible cost overruns, and retention of all competitive designs without remuneration, apart from prize-winning entrants. Added to these grievances were implied accusations of rigged competitions in which winning entries had been predetermined. The chief vehicle for articulating these complaints was *The Canadian Architect and Builder*, where attacks were launched against a succession of city hall competitions during the late 1880s and 1890s; Chatham, Quebec City, St. Thomas and Stratford were all subject to criticism for some or all of these reasons.[41]

Irregularities in the letting of contracts, both for designs and construction, occurred from time to time. In Ottawa, the winning design from an 1872 competition was bypassed in favour of a later entry by a major local firm. The same council's equivocation over contract tendering for the building's construction provoked the following comments in the *Daily Citizen:*

> There are obvious reasons why all, or nearly all, the public works, and many private undertakings, should be put up to public competition; but there is no really substantial reason why this mode of doing business should be turned into a systematic means of hoodwinking the parties who have to pay the cost, and unduly contributing to the coffers of those who form what are called "rings".... Complaints have been frequent on this subject with regard to civic affairs, and they are common to every municipality great or small throughout the Dominion.[42]

A major criticism of monumental city halls inevitably centred around their high cost of construction. Instances where such buildings were constructed within original cost estimates were rare, and this factor often provoked intense opposition to such undertakings, particularly with the advent of urban reform. New concerns for fiscal planning and improved social services replaced monumental civic buildings as priorities. Toronto's city hall was a case in point. Originally conceived of as a $600 000 project, it cost in excess of $2.[illegible] million by the time of its completion over ten years later. The mayor at the time of its official opening in 1900 reflected these changing sentiments:

> We have a great municipal building. I am glad to say I opposed its construction at every stage. Had we expended a couple of years'

> interest on the vast sums of capital that we have spent in the building, we could have erected plain, simple, commodious apartments without neglecting the sanitary conditions of our city.[43]

While the era of large city halls drew to a close in Eastern Canada around this time, it continued for another decade in the West, where first St. Boniface, then Regina and Calgary invested large sums on impressive buildings. The city of St. Boniface commissioned Winnipeg architect Victor W. Horwood to design its city hall in 1905. It is a compact three-storey brick building featuring a classical portico and prominent cupola. When built, it housed a police court and jail cells in the basement, a variety of administrative offices flanking an open central foyer on the ground floor, with a broad staircase leading to the council chamber and committee rooms on the floor above. Additional office space was located on the third storey.[44]

The examples at Regina and Calgary were based on a common plan prepared by Regina architect William S. Dodd. Both were started in 1907, the Regina building featuring brick walls while the one at Calgary was constructed of local sandstone. Dodd's design featured Romanesque Revival

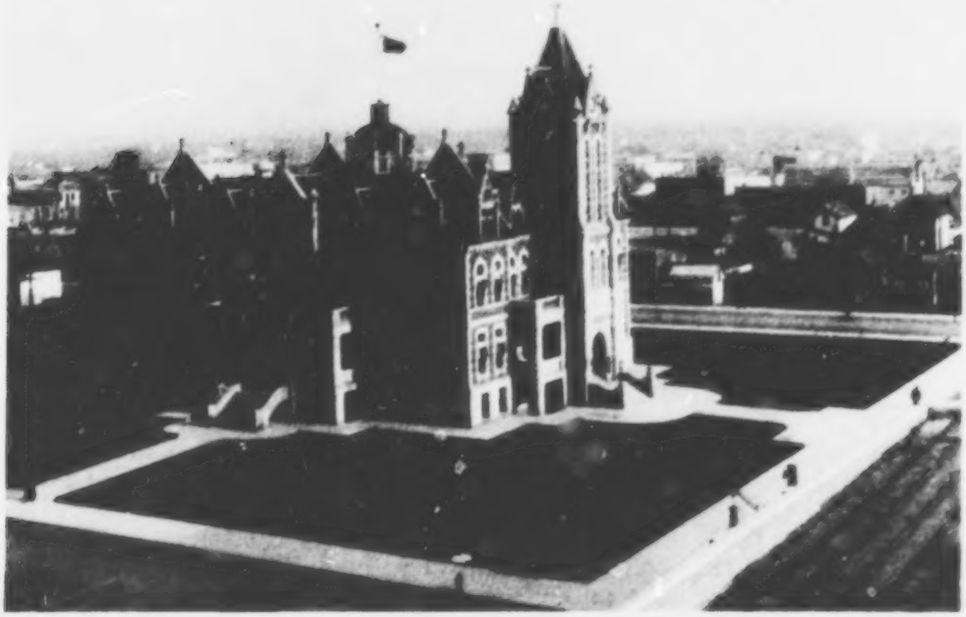


Figure 22. Regina City Hall, built 1907 and demolished ca. 1968. Similar plans were used for Calgary City Hall which still stands. (Public Archives Canada)

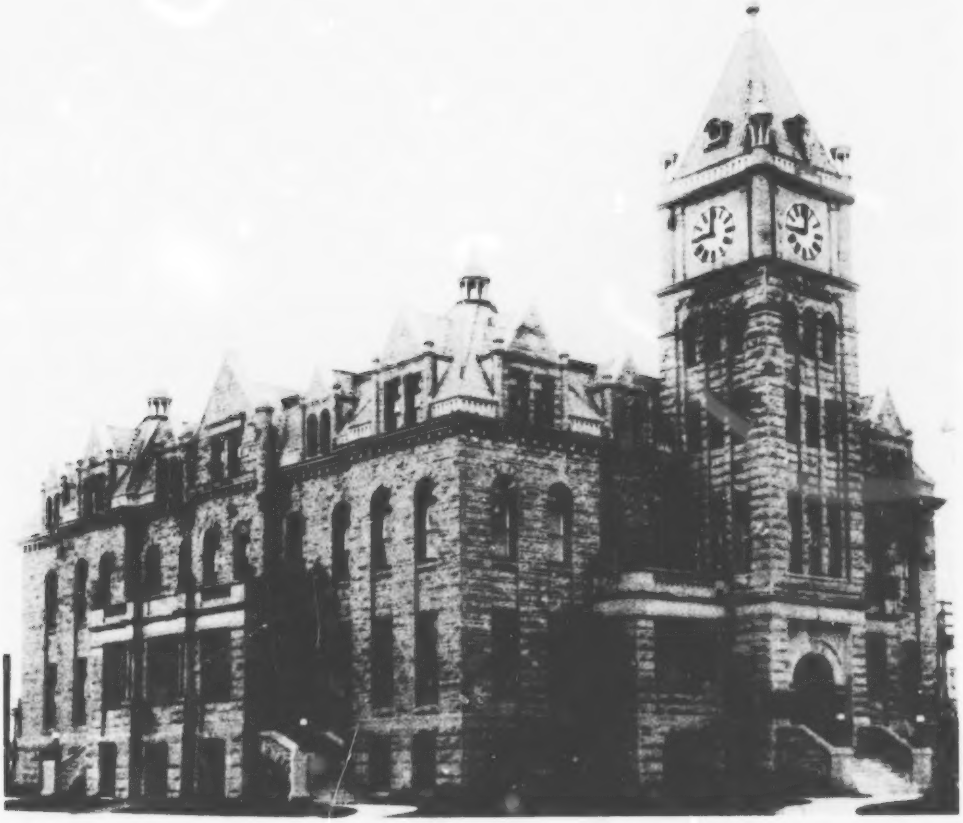


Figure 23. Calgary City Hall (1908-11) was constructed of locally quarried sandstone. The impressive Romanesque style building was the subject of intense local controversy at the time of its construction due to dramatic cost overruns. (Glenbow-Alberta Institute)

arched windows, entrances and ornamentation, with a prominent central clock tower (Figs. 22, 23). Externally, the two buildings closely resembled earlier examples built at Hamilton and St. Thomas.

The cost of Calgary's impressive building escalated from a proposed $150 000 to double that amount, creating a local furor and earning the building the reputation of "probably the most controversial building ever erected in the city."[45] Calgary's experience may have been the source of inspiration for Edmonton's prudent approach to civic facilities. In 1913 that city commenced construction of an austere six-storey office block to house its administration (Fig. 24). The design was prepared by the city's own architectural office. The Edmonton *Daily Bulletin* took pleasure in describing the absence of frivolity in the new building:

> The plan and expectation is *sic* that this building will house all of the civic departments in a business-like and comfortable manner and that from its perfections and imperfections, the plan of a city hall suited to the size and dignity of Edmonton as it will be perhaps five or ten years from now will be evolved.... There are no attempts at architectural frills or inward decoration beyond the point of work utility,... the building will be plain, simple and unadorned except by such accommodations and structural devices

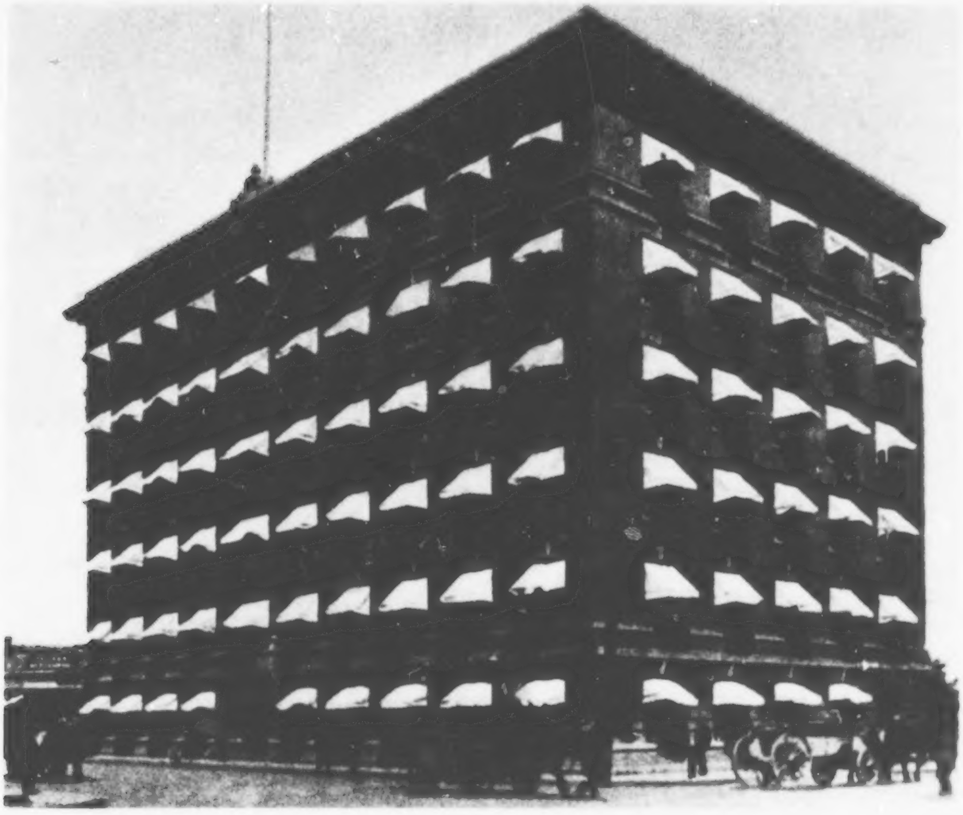


Figure 24. Edmonton City Hall, ca. 1914. The costliness of monumental city halls prompted some city councils to commission utilitarian office building designs instead. Edmonton was the first Canadian city to meet its administrative requirements in this way. (*Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City*, Edmonton: Esdale, 1914)

> as will make it thoroughly capable of housing the civic departments and of administering their needs in an economical and direct way.[46]

The post-1900 period witnessed the growth of sophisticated and increasingly complex architectural concepts for city hall planning at the same time as opposition to massive expenditures on such projects was gathering momentum. Monumental civic buildings were the focal points of a succession of comprehensive urban plans prepared for cities such as Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Hamilton and Ottawa, some of which actually reached the stage of architectural competition before being scrapped during the economic recession of 1913.[47] The impetus to build new city halls of monumental scale came to an abrupt halt, no new single-function administrative examples of any size appearing for almost a decade.

Four modest examples were built during the 1920s, at Kitchener (demolished), Sherbrooke, Westmount and London. The Sherbrooke and London buildings were utilitarian office blocks comparable to the earlier Edmonton example, while Westmount's was a distinctive castellated design. By far the largest undertaking of the 1920s was the reconstruction of Montreal's city hall following the destruction by fire in 1922 of all but the exterior shell of the 1872-78 building. The city commissioned architect J.L.D. Lafrenière to design a modern reinforced concrete and steel structure to fit within the existing shell. Apart from an altered roofline dictated by the addition of a fourth storey, the building as reconstructed retained much of its original exterior appearance. The totally new interior maintained the close cultural association with French civic architecture established by the 1872-78 predecessor, emphasizing impressive ceremonial and reception facilities. These included an expansive vestibule and a reception hall 44 by 106 feet, both clad in French marble, along with a second reception hall annexed to the mayor's chambers.[48] But compared with the 1872 design, ceremonial space was sharply reduced, giving way to a far higher proportion of office area to meet current needs (Fig. 25). As a 1926 article noted, the fire may have been a blessing in disguise:

> The large interior open courts and stately staircases...were very impressive in scale, but it was a question of time before the remodelling of the whole interior would have had to be undertaken to cope with the rapid growth of all the departments which had outgrown their present quarters.[49]

Although built between 1935 and 1936 and technically outside the time parameters of the present study, the city hall at Vancouver serves as an appropriate postscript to an examination of early city hall designs in Canada. The building was the first monumental example to incorporate many of the design concepts introduced after the turn of the century to meet the complex requirements of large-scale city government. Built of reinforced concrete, with native stone sheathing, the new city hall was placed on a site lying considerably outside the city's existing core, making it readily visible as a landmark from the downtown area while at the same time commanding a panoramic view. The central tower of the building rises 159 feet and contains 12 storeys (Fig. 26). A contemporary description indicates prevailing concerns regarding the allocation of interior space:

> The building was planned to give a maximum of efficiency and comfort allowing for such considerations as privacy for the mayor and other officials. Offices frequented by the public are placed in the most convenient and accessible positions, on the ground floor. Offices for the transaction of strictly civic business are located on the upper floors, while allowance was made for the possibility of future expansion of certain departments.[50]

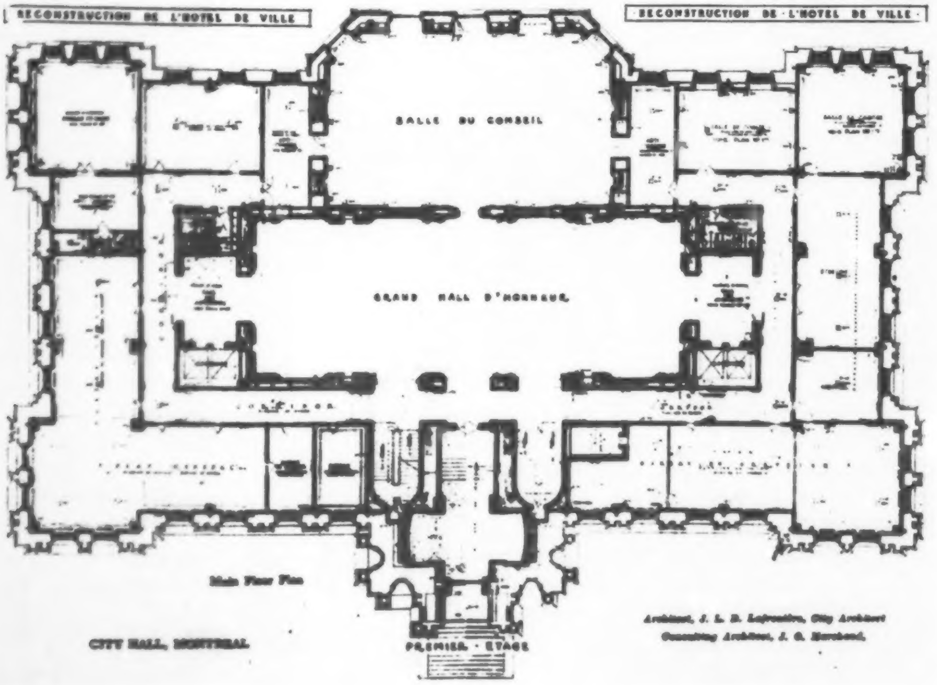

RECONSTRUCTION DE L'HOTEL DE VILLE
RECONSTRUCTION DE L'HOTEL DE VILLE
SALLE DU CONSEIL
GRAND HALL D'HONNEUR
Main Floor Plan
CITY HALL, MONTREAL
PREMIER · ETAGE
Architect, J. L. D. Lafrenière, City Architect
Consulting Architect, J. O. Marchand.

Figure 25. Main floor plan for reconstruction of Montreal City Hall, completed in 1926. The inclusion of a large central reception hall and smaller chambers for ceremonial purposes reflects a conscious link with French civic architectural traditions. (*Construction*, Vol. 19, February, 1926, p. 44)

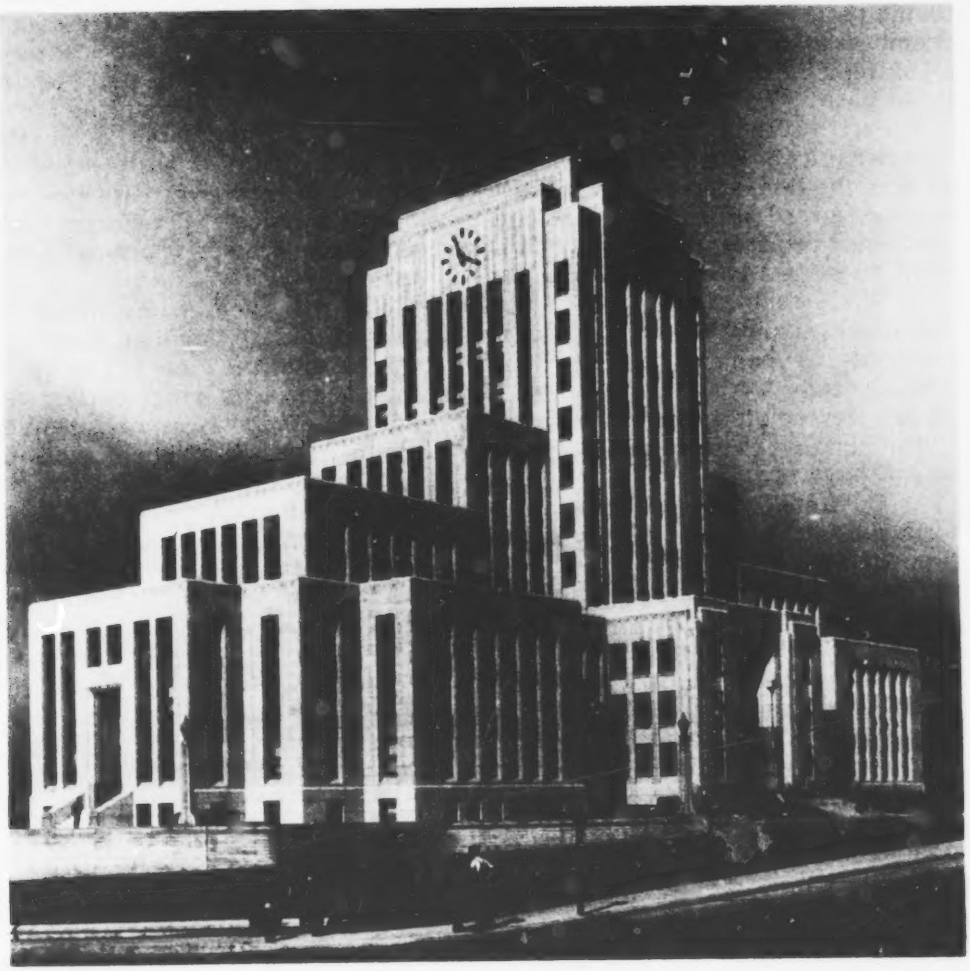


Figure 26. Vancouver City Hall (1935-36). Although several Canadian cities commissioned plans for monumental office towers and civic centres after 1912, financial constraints prohibited their construction. Vancouver's 12-storey city hall was an exception to the general absence of new large-scale examples between 1912 and 1950. (Vancouver Public Library, 24750)

CONCLUSION

Monumental municipal halls filled two primary functions, regardless of the period in which they were built: they housed the various offices and chambers associated with civic government, and also served as architectural statements of the community's aspirations and achievements. While these basic purposes remained essentially unchanged throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, the manner in which they were achieved underwent a thorough transition. One need only compare an early example such as the Bonsecours Market in Montreal with the Vancouver City Hall to become aware of the transformation in both physical appearance and functional requirements which had accompanied the growth of city government during the interim period.

While each of the surviving examples is a reflection of its community's needs, aspirations and resources, it is possible to identify specific examples as being particularly noteworthy within the context of the present study – some as major architectural monuments which served as models for emulation in other communities, and others as representative and minimally altered examples of the building type within the period in which they were built.

Outstanding pre-1870 examples include Kingston City Hall and Victoria Hall at Cobourg. Both were major architectural achievements at the time of their construction, and mark the first tentative move away from the combined market/town hall format. Montreal's Bonsecours Market, in contrast, is noteworthy both for its vast scale and as the outstanding example of the early market/town hall facility. The buildings at Niagara-on-tne-Lake and Guelph are representative and comparatively unaltered (externally) examples of the multi-functional designs used in many intermediate-sized communities during the period.

Montreal City Hall (1872-78) and Toronto City Hall (1888-99) were the most influential civic buildings of the 1870-1900 period, in terms of scale, complexity and apparent influence on subsequent designs. (The Montreal example technically straddles the period of its initial construction and the later one in which it was reconstructed.) Construction of each of these buildings was followed by a succession of smaller city halls using similar architectural styles – Second Empire and Romanesque Revival, respectively. While it remains conjectural whether the precedents established at Montreal and Toronto alone influenced other communities to follow suit, the two buildings certainly established major potential models for emulation. They also marked the most sophisticated essays in administrative-function design in 19th-century Canada. Other administrative-function examples from the same period which survive with little or no exterior alteration are the buildings at Saint John, Halifax, Quebec City, Victoria and Stratford. The combined-function examples from the same period were characterized, as previously noted, by a shift from market facilities to a wide variety of new ones, most frequently fire and police departments and magistrates' courts. The examples at Belleville and Fredericton are interesting for two reasons, as the only post-1870 buildings in which the public market was retained, and as rare examples of Gothic Revival architecture in large-scale city halls. More typical and comparatively unaltered combined-function examples from the period are the buildings at Petrolia, Charlottetown and Carleton Place.

The post-1900 period saw the introduction of new theories for city hall design — one advocating the adoption of utilitarian office block formats in the interests of economy and efficiency, the other proposing the construction of complexes of monumental scale as the centrepieces of redesigned city plans. While the former saw application in several Canadian cities, the impact of the latter was negligible in terms of completed buildings. Most post-1900 city halls differed from those of the previous decades primarily in an improved articulation of interior space and the use of modern reinforced concrete and steel frame construction. With a few exceptions, the architecture of post-1900 examples was less flamboyant than that of their 19th-century predecessors. The buildings at St. Boniface, Calgary and Medicine Hat are the largest surviving pre-1930 city halls in the three Prairie provinces, apart from the much-altered example at Edmonton. The remaining members of the post-1900 group are located in the province of Quebec. Singled out primarily for their distinctive exterior designs are the Châteauesque example at St. Louis-du-Mile-End and the castellated Westmount City Hall. Although it falls outside the time parameters of this essay, the 1935-36 Vancouver City Hall should also be noted as the sole civic example in skyscraper design to occur in this country, and indeed the only new city hall of monumental proportions to be built (apart from the reconstruction of Montreal's) until the 1950s.

ENDNOTES

1 Canada. Department of the Interior, Census of Canada, 1871 (Ottawa: I.R. Taylor, 1873), Vol. I, Table vi, p. 428.

2 Ontario. Archives. Town of Niagara, Minutes of Council, 1847-48 and "Specifications for the Erection of the Town Hall and Market Place, Niagara, by William Thomas, Architect."

3 Leo A. Johnson, History of Guelph 1827-1927 (Guelph: Guelph Historical Society, 1977), pp. 198-99.

4 Ibid., p. 195.

5 J.P. Stokes, "The Preservation of Victoria Hall," in Victorian Cobourg: a Nineteenth Century Profile. Ed. John Petryshyn (Belleville: Mika Publishing Company, 1976), pp. 28-37 passim.

6 J. Douglas Stewart, "Controversies, Myths and Realities," In Kingston City Hall, edited by Ian E. Wilson et al. (Kingston: Corporation of the City of Kingston, 1974), pp. 5-6.

7 Dana Johnson, "Kingston City Hall." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, 1979.

8 Margaret S. Angus, "City Hall and Community." In *Kingston City Hall*, edited by Ian E. Wilson et al., p. 11.

9 Henry Rowsell, *City of Toronto Directory, 1850-51*, quoted in Civic Advisory Council, "Historical Outline of Toronto's Municipal Buildings, 1834-1952," p. 9, in City of Toronto Archives, City Hall file.

10 "This building, which is erected on the south side of Front Street, consists of a frontage of 140 feet, and two side wings extending towards the bay. The main building is occupied by the City Hall, where the meetings of the Common Council are held, and by the Police Office. It also included accommodations for the Mayor, Clerk, Chamberlain, High Bailiff, City Inspector, and other offices connected with the corporation; besides which there are shops on the ground floor let for various purposes. The interior quadrangle formed by the main building and the two wings is occupied by a vegetable and fruit market. The fish market is a small building in the rear, at the water's edge." Henry Rowsell, *City of Toronto Directory, 1850-51*.

11 *The New Guide to Montreal, 1851*, cited in Charles P. DeVolpi and P.S. Winkworth, *Montreal, Recueil iconographique.../A Pictorial Record...*, (Montreal: Dev-Sco Publications, 1963), Vol. 1, pl. 98. "The new Market in which Parliament now sits: Bonsecours Market for spaciousness and conveniency is not surpassed on this continent.... The second storey of this building is now fitted up for the offices of the City Corporation on the southern side of the central rotunda, and for a concert and exhibition room on the other."

12 James Marston Fitch, *American Building: The Historical Forces that Shaped It* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1966), p. 79; also Harold Kirker, *The Architecture of Charles Bulfinch* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1969), pp. 248-49. The Quincy Market and Bulfinch's Faneuil Hall and Market, both located in Boston, used configurations similar to the large market and assembly hall buildings in Toronto and Montreal.

13 Letter of William Footner to the Building Committee for the New Market Building, cited in *Mount Royal Montreal/Mont-Royal Montréal*, ed. David Bellman, *RACAR*, supplement No. 1 (Dec. 1977), p. 521.

14 Kelly Crossman, "St. Catharines Town Hall/Lincoln County Court House." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, 1977.

15 William Dendy, *Lost Toronto* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1978), p. 48; also "Historical Outline of Toronto's Municipal Buildings," Appendix J.

16 The qualification to this trend consists of two major examples, the city halls at Victoria, British Columbia, and Toronto, Ontario. Both

contained nonadministrative functions, the former by virtue of later additions containing a fire hall and police barracks, and the latter through the inclusion of facilities for the county courts. In both cases, complex administrative facilities dominated interior layout, so it seems more appropriate to include them in the single-function section which follows. The group of post-1870 combined-function municipal halls consists of eight built before 1900 and 14 dating from after the turn of the century. Of the former, six are located in Ontario and two in the Maritimes. The post-1900 group comprises nine from Quebec, four from Saskatchewan and one from Alberta.

17 In the case of Fredericton, market facilities were relegated to the basement. Upper floors contained administrative offices and a public hall in a configuration similar to many contemporary examples. "The Fredericton City Hall," Weekly Telegraph (Saint John), 16 Feb. 1876.

18 Daily Colonist (Victoria), 29 Aug. 1877, p. 2; ibid., 3 March 1878, p. 3.

19 City of Stratford, Minutes of Council, 1898, quoted in Dana Johnson, "Stratford City Hall." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, 1979. The council ran separate competitions, one for a replacement market/city hall building, the other for a new city hall. A public vote eventually endorsed the latter.

20 Daily Examiner (Charlottetown), 8 Jan. 1888.

21 "The New Town Hall and Fire Hall, Carleton Place," Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 8 (Dec. 1895), p. 143.

22 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Petrolia, 1887-89; also R.E. Riendeau, "Victoria Hall, Petrolia." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, 1975.

23 Town halls at Chicoutimi and Alma, Quebec, were products of depression make-work projects. The latter community had a population of 1000 at the time.

24 "The Market Competition," Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 2 (April 1889), p. 142; Vol. 11 (May 1898), pp. 84-85; also see George B. Brooks, Plain Facts about the New City Hall (Winnipeg: Walker and May, 1884), p. 6 (hereafter cited as Plain Facts...). The dispute between city council and architect Barber in Winnipeg resulted in a prolonged court action and a highly publicized scandal.

25 Montreal. Archives municipales, "L'hôtel de ville de St. Louis-du-Mile-End."

26 Marc de Caraffe, "L'ancien hôtel de ville, maintenant Centre Workman." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, November 1978.

27 "The Hat's New City Hall," Western Municipal News, Vol. 2 (March 1907), p. 342.

28 Demolished examples include Ottawa, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Regina and Kitchener; converted examples include Saint John, Toronto,

Chatham and London.

29 Marc de Caraffe, "Hôtel de ville, Montréal." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, November 1978.

30 Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Architecture: Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries (Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1967), p. 225.

31 Members of the Court House Committee, Toronto Municipal and County Buildings (Toronto: Court House Committee, 1889), pp. 2-3.

32 New Brunswick. Museum, "Report of the Special Committee of the Common Council of the City of Saint John, 1895," p. 119.

33 "The City Hall ... Review of the Designs," Evening Chronicle (Halifax), 21 Oct. 1886, p. 1.

34 "City Hall Plans," Daily Colonist (Victoria), 4 Nov. 1875, p. 3.

35 "The New City Hall," Daily Spectator (Hamilton), 19 July 1888, p. 4.

36 Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 11 (May 1898), pp. 84-85.

37 Toronto Municipal and County Buildings, p. 1.

38 Barbara Humphreys and Jack Richardson, "Stratford City Hall – Architecture, Town Layout and Impact." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada –Parks, Ottawa, 1971.

39 Competitions were held for the town halls in Ottawa, Victoria, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Chatham, Quebec, St. Thomas and Stratford. The remainder were designed by architects appointed by local building committees.

40 A detailed account of the conflict between the city of Winnipeg and architect C.A. Barber can be found in Brooks, Plain Facts....

41 Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 3 (Jan. 1890), p. 2; ibid., Vol. 2 (April 1889), p. 42; ibid., Vol. 3 (Dec. 1890), p. 134, and ibid., Vol. 11 (May 1898), pp. 84-85.

42 "The City Hall Contract," Daily Citizen (Ottawa), 2 Sept. 1874, p. 3.

43 Quoted in Bruce West, Toronto (Toronto: Doubleday, 1979), p. 158.

44 "Town of St. Boniface: Tenders," Winnipeg Telegram, 17 Aug. 1905, p. 2.

45 Max Foran, Calgary – An Illustrated History (Toronto: James Lorimer, 1978), p. 94; also Calgary Daily Herald, 18 Dec. 1909, pp. 1 and 11.

46 "Big Plans Launched for 1913 Building Program," Daily Bulletin (Edmonton), 27 Jan. 1913, p. 5.

47 Competition plans for Winnipeg's proposed city hall appeared in Construction, Vol. 6 (April 1913), while those for Vancouver's Civic Centre were analyzed in a municipal report entitled Vancouver Civic Centre: Report of Plans Committee, April 8, 1915 (Vancouver: n.p., 1915).

48 Montreal. Archives municipales, 6 Aug. 1945.

49 Construction, Vol. 19 (Feb. 1926), p. 41.

50 Western Canada Contractor (Nov.-Dec. 1936), pp. 4-6.

III. RURAL, VILLAGE AND TOWN HALLS IN CANADA

C.A. Hale

INTRODUCTION

Municipal halls in rural areas, villages and towns or small cities in Canada range from the simple, boxlike, unadorned community hall to intermediate-sized town or city halls. Together they form the largest group of buildings studied and not surprisingly, they tend to be considerably less ornate and imposing than those built in large cities. As theories of municipal government evolved – a process that gathered momentum around the turn of the 20th century – the buildings that housed the municipal governments in both rural and urban areas underwent correspondingly significant changes in layout and external appearance. The key to this change was the specialization and departmentalization of expanding services and responsibilities, supervised and executed for the first time by professional, salaried employees.

While minor improvements were made to the basic design of traditional one-room halls in Canada's rural municipalities, they began to be replaced by small administrative office buildings in the early 20th century. This was particularly evident in the Prairie provinces where the initial stages of municipal building occurred relatively late. It is in the design of town halls in urban areas that the administrative evolution can be seen most clearly. The intermediate-sized towns or cities of the 19th century typically built town halls that provided accommodation for additional facilities such as markets and later, opera halls within the same building. Throughout the period examined, the services most commonly incorporated into the town or city hall building were the police force and the fire department. In many cases, as additional space and efficiency were required for municipal services, these associated activities came to occupy proportionately less space, or were removed entirely and separately housed. The culmination of this process in the pre-1930 period was the high-rise office building in the largest cities and its more modest counterpart in smaller urban centres.

The municipal halls discussed in the following essay are divided into two general categories. The first type is the simple, unspecialized hall with a single room. This building form remained popular throughout the 19th century and even later. It began as a multi-use building, and evolved from an important community gathering or meeting place with open space adaptable to a wide variety of local activities, to a more strictly administrative centre housing offices for the mayor and municipal employees as well as a council chamber. Many smaller rural areas with limited responsibilities have made only minor additions or internal alterations to the open meeting hall. But in expanding communities the role of the town hall as a social centre was gradually eclipsed by the need for more space for the municipality's administrative arm. The availability of a growing number of other suitable meeting places for the public, such as schools, gymnasia, theatres and lodge halls encouraged the transition from the municipal hall as an unspecialized community centre to a strictly administrative building.

The second category of town hall encompasses multifunctional municipal halls which are generally found in intermediate-sized communities. In addition to the basic legislative and administrative requirements, other distinct services affecting the public welfare, such as fire and police protection, the administration of justice, and independent cultural and commercial activities, were accommodated within one building to make the town hall economically feasible and visually more formidable.

The incorporation of important community services increased the municipal building's size and stature, and is reflected in its design and layout. Traditional towers combined with bold, complex rooflines characterized the architecture of the 19th-century town hall. As the century came to a close, dramatic changes were occurring in concepts of urban government. The proliferation of services being offered by the municipal government to the community by this time required the modification and expansion of the design of the municipal hall. Gradually those functions not directly related to municipal administration were eliminated. In the 19th-century municipal hall designs closely paralleled those of other public buildings; this similarity continued into the 20th century as architectural styles changed, emphasizing the more economical use of space and contemporary building materials. The popular philosophy expressed in these structures can be traced from the 19th-century concept of ritual and symbolic classical decoration to the more streamlined modern ethic of increased utilitarianism.

EVOLUTION OF THE STANDARD OPEN-HALL PLAN

An examination of the design of the Canadian municipal hall begins with its simplest or most rudimentary form. This was a modest, symmetrically detailed, hip- or gable-roofed structure. The gable-roofed building was more common, with an entrance at the gable end, or less frequently, at the side. These early buildings consisted of one or two storeys, and their interiors were usually dominated by an open hall which could also be used for large social gatherings. The communal building of the frontier was unspecialized and utilitarian. Initially this early form functioned as a social, legislative and administrative centre, in contrast to the strictly administrative type which did not emerge until the end of the 19th century. Some municipalities retained their open halls until the 1960s, such as in rural Ontario, where community officials still performed record-keeping duties in their own homes as they had in the previous century. Despite inefficiency and inconvenience, this system persisted because it was familiar and inexpensive.

Built in the mid-1800s in predominantly rural areas of Canada, these buildings resemble the vernacular architecture of the northeastern part of colonial America. Although similar to local domestic structures of the period, their exteriors frequently incorporated minor decorative features to distinguish them from other buildings in the community. Such features might include wood carving, varied brick- or stonework, porticoes or towers. Compared with the urban halls, however, many of the early rural municipal halls in Canada can be described as being practically devoid of ornament. In its simplest version, the design of the early Canadian municipal hall was not unlike that of the rural schoolhouses, banks and churches constructed in the same period; in fact they are sometimes visually indistinguishable. What frequently elevated them from the local architectural milieu was their function, site and building materials.

The simple open hall served communities with populations ranging from 800 to 3000. Open halls serving populations up to 6000 were common to areas like the Prairies in the early 20th century. Although a few open halls were erected in rural Prairie municipalities in the late 19th century, most of the rural halls extant in the western provinces reflect the transition from the unspecialized town hall of the frontier to the 20th century "municipal office."

Origin of Design

The earliest Canadian rural municipal hall stylistically resembles the New England Puritan meeting house, which initially served its small community in both a civic and religious capacity. The New England meeting house of the 18th century usually contained one large open hall with movable seating where the community gathered to worship and adult male property-holders met to conduct community business. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries a number of these civic/religious, New England-style meeting houses were erected in Canada by communities of New England or Loyalist origin in southern Ontario and southwestern Nova Scotia. The Barrington Meeting House (Fig. 1), built in Nova Scotia in 1765 by New England fishermen from Cape Cod and Nantucket, is typical of this genre and is one of the oldest examples in the country.

It appears unlikely, however, that the New England hall is a direct antecedent of the simple municipal hall in Canada. Canada's experience with municipal government did not begin until at least 80 or 100 years after many of the meeting halls were built in New England, and in the interim the meeting hall had become a primarily religious building.

The simplicity of their mutual form, as well as the general lack of literature recommending plans for either meeting halls or early small town halls, make it impossible to trace the direct origin of their design. Both types of buildings are undeniably similar and both initially served a common function. The architectural form was well suited to this climate and appears to have been a distinctly North American frontier phenomenon, popular throughout Canada and the eastern United States. Within the contemporary context, the style is utilitarian; the bold gable roof facilitated snow removal and deflected the rays of the sun in hot weather.

General Characteristics

Open-room town halls generally range in size from about 25 by 40 feet long to 45 by 90 feet long and may consist of one or two storeys with one room on each floor. Here, the activities of the municipal council were initially limited to discussion of such matters as building community

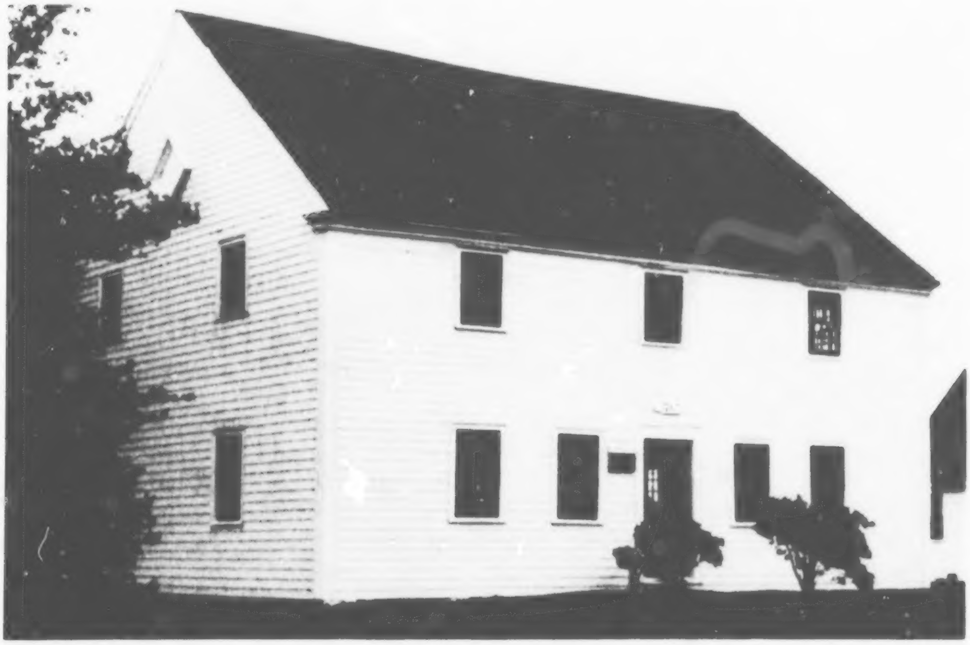


Figure 1. Barrington Meeting House, N.S., 1977. Built in 1765 by local fishermen, this building was designed in the style of early New England meeting houses. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, C.A. Hale)

streets, drainage, controlling animals running at large, constructing public buildings, wharves, ditches and fences, and establishing bounties – some of which were dispensed with quickly on an ad hoc basis by merely appointing an overseer or inspector. Later, fire and police protection, sewage, public health and education came to occupy many of these councils.

Like its urban counterpart, the simple town hall has experienced a high rate of renovation and demolition in response to the demands of increasing population, municipal reorganization and expanding services. Much of what we know of the interiors of these buildings therefore is gained from original specifications, the remains of the original structure, and council minutes which sometimes record expenditures for fixtures and maintenance in detail. Early interiors tended to be austere and very simply furnished by modern standards. Throughout the 19th century they were heated by a central floor stove and in some cases still are. The open room was often divided into council and spectators' areas separated by a railing and/or a raised platform upon which the council table was placed, with six or more chairs for such council members as reeve or mayor, deputy reeve, three or more councillors, and clerk/secretary, with a chair and desk at the side for the latter. The platform also doubled as a stage for public readings, speeches, dramatic presentations and musical entertainment. In this manner the town hall functioned in much the same way as the "community halls" found in both incorporated and unincorporated communities. Occasionally a bookcase against the wall would serve as the clerk's storage place for papers, but it appears that more often the municipal records were retained in the clerk's home. Benches provided seating in the public section. The furniture was usually made by local carpenters. A portrait of the reigning monarch of the time often adorned the wall which might be wainscotted or whitewashed.

The cost of the open-room municipal halls was low – often less than $500 in the 1870s and 1880s – and since few professional architects operated outside the major population centres the buildings were usually designed by council members themselves assisted by a builder. The designer of the 1890 Hay Township Hall in Zurich, Ontario, for example, was George Hess, whose occupations at various times included those of watchmaker, photographer and telegraph operator.[1] These halls were often constructed by a local farmer or by a community building bee.

Earliest Extant Examples:
Ontario, Pre-1870

At the time of our study, fewer than 175 examples of the simple, unspecialized, open-room halls and approximately 50 small, more administratively oriented town halls built before 1930 were standing in Canada.[2]

None of the open-hall type is known to be extant in the Maritimes, although a few small pre-1930 administrative examples do exist. Southern Ontario has by far the largest number of surviving simple open-room municipal halls in Canada. Most of these were built in the rural townships where settlement was extensive and localized from a relatively early period; consequently, more than 160 open-room halls compared with little more than a handful in the other provinces are known to exist. The passage of Ontario's Municipal Act of 1849 was followed by extensive municipal hall construction in the rural areas of the province, and more than 75 per cent of the surviving examples in Ontario were built between the 1850s and

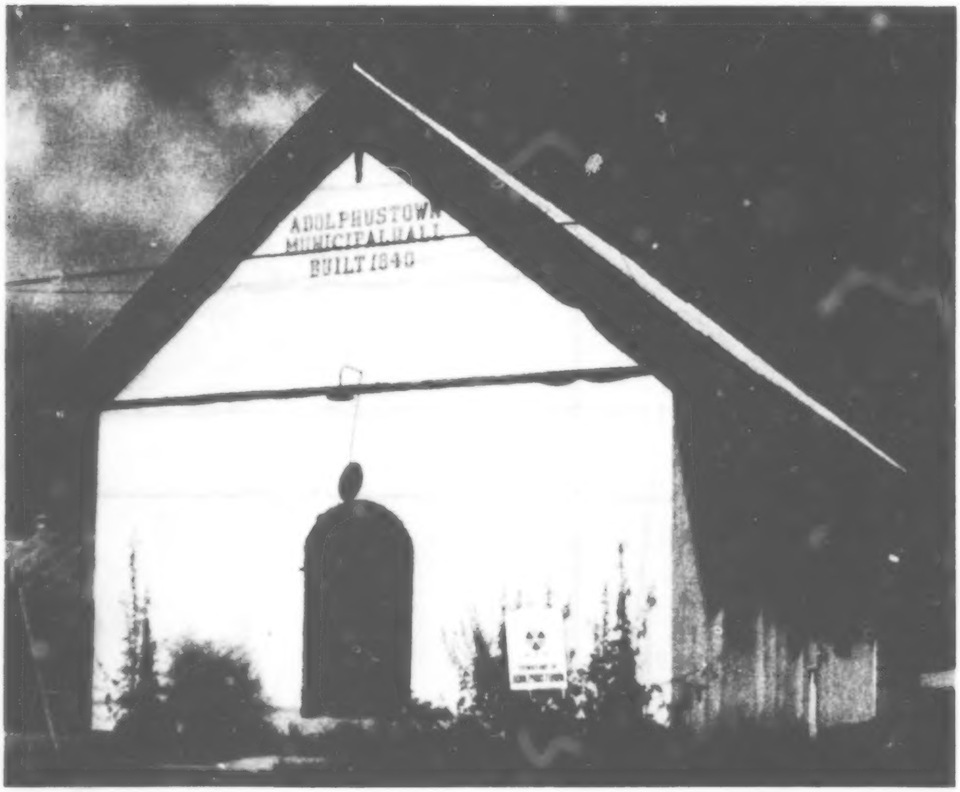


Figure 2. Adolphustown Municipal Hall, Ont., built in 1840. One of the oldest municipal halls in Canada, this building follows the simple, open-hall plan common to early examples of the functional type. It is still in use. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

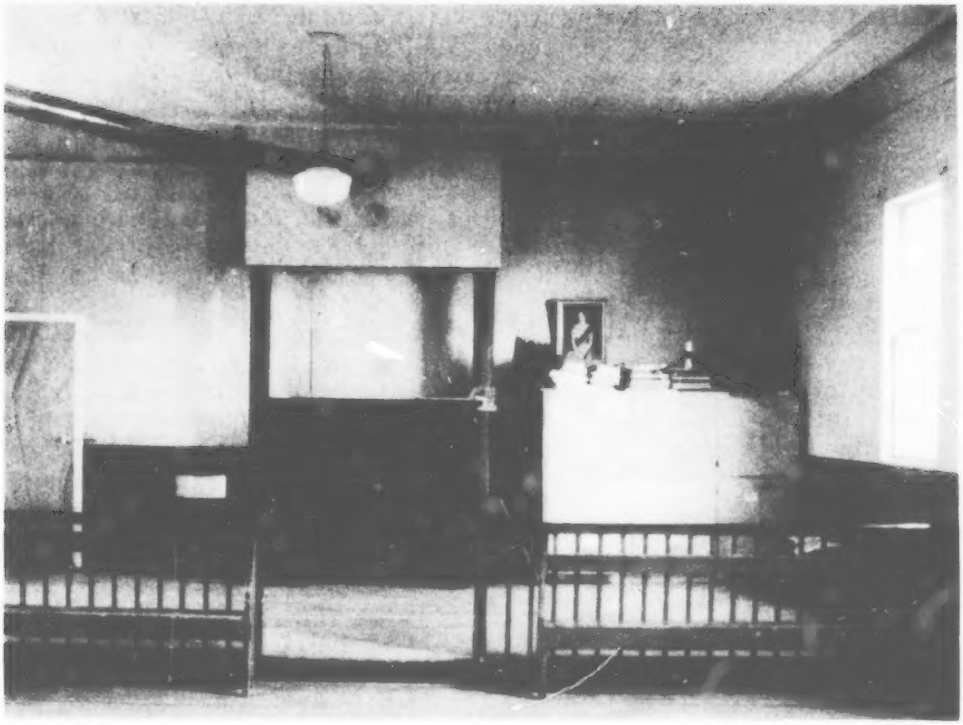


Figure 3. Adolphustown Municipal Hall, Ont., view of one-room interior from main entrance. Note the railing dividing the public area from council section. The pressed metal cove ceiling and wall coverings are later additions. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada – Parks, 1980)

the 1880s, with only about 20 per cent erected between the 1890s and the 1910s.

Two of the earliest of these are the former Dumfries Township Hall and the Adolphustown Municipal Hall, erected in Ontario in 1838 and 1840, respectively. Unlike many of the later examples in the province, both of these buildings were constructed of wood. The Dumfries hall, located in the southwestern Ontario city of Cambridge, served that community from 1838 until 1850. It was moved to its present location in 1857 and after substantial alterations now functions as a private residence. The plans for the building have not been located, but they are known to have initially accommodated a school in the upper storey, which may indicate a cost-sharing arrangement.

The Adolphustown Municipal Hall (Figs. 2-4) was originally constructed of wood and subsequently covered with stucco. It is still heated by a single wood stove, which may explain the lack of windows in the front; fewer openings meant less draft. Aside from the entrance, a small pinnacle at the apex of the gable and a wide fascia are the building's only conspicuous decorative elements. Subsequent alterations include the addition of a concrete block office at the rear in 1977. Recent additions of this nature to the rural municipal hall demonstrate the growing importance of the clerk and the need for a fireproof vault to protect municipal records and an office from which to conduct business. In most cases, both have been added to the rear of the halls and detract little from their original designs.

The Douro Township Hall (Fig. 5) in Lang was built in 1857, also of wood. It ranks as one of the few rudimentary-level municipal halls that has been restored (see also Scott Township Hall). Like the Adolphustown building, the interior of the Douro building consists of an open hall with a railing separating the spectator or public area from the council table, like the

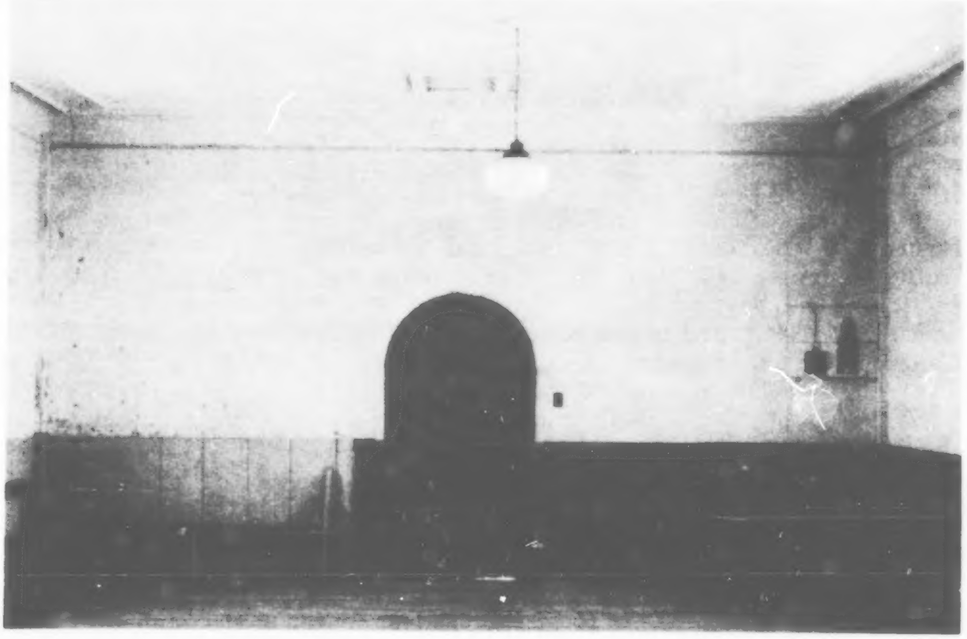


Figure 4. Adolphustown Municipal Hall, Ont. The one-room interior shows the public area with benches, looking towards the main entrance. The simple interior was common to most open-room rural halls in Ontario during the mid-19th century. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks, 1980)

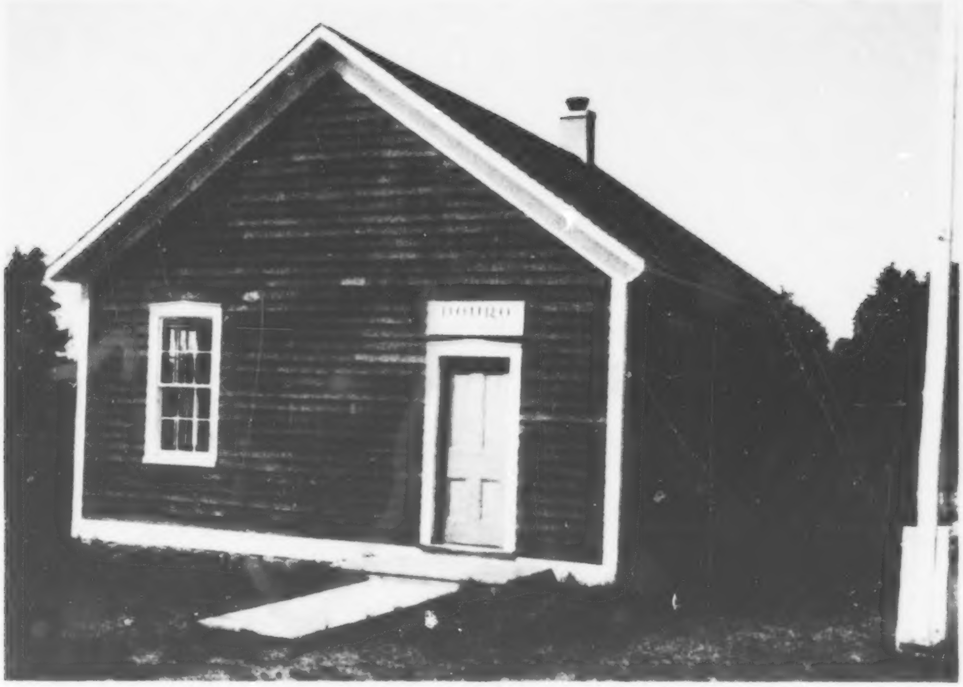


Figure 5. Douro Township Hall, formerly of Lang, Ont., moved from original site and now part of Century Village, a group of restored local buildings. Built in 1857, the hall has been restored to its 1897 condition rather than its date of construction. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

traditional interior division in many Canadian courtrooms. The five-member council sat at a wooden table in armchairs made by a local carpenter. The clerk's desk is placed to the side and his books are stored in a bookcase against the wall. Two ballot booths are situated in the opposite corner. The walls are plastered and painted white, and a framed portrait of an aged Queen Victoria overlooks the proceedings. An interesting feature of the restoration is the inclusion of a replica of the horse shed located at the rear of the hall – a reminder of an aspect of municipal meeting attendance easily forgotten in an age of modern motorized transportation.

A rare example of the board and batten method of wall construction is the restored Scott Township Hall (Fig. 6), built in 1860 by a local farmer.[3] Moved and now part of "Century Farm," the Scott hall currently functions as a museum. It is particularly significant in that, like the Douro hall, it presents a rare opportunity to examine a partially restored interior. The interior consists of an open hall with stage – a raised six-foot-wide platform two steps above floor level – and the walls have a five-foot-high wainscotting of hand-planed and beaded pine. The floor consists of pine planks 1.5 inches thick. A movable speaker's podium is situated on the stage. Backless benches provide public seating. In addition to council meetings, the hall was used for public meetings, parties, dances and in meeting hall fashion, church services and lectures. Until 1967 a wood stove provided its only source of heat.

Several other early frame halls in Ontario are worthy of mention. Aside from date, information concerning their construction is scanty. In general, their exteriors are in good condition. Located in southern Ontario, all have large open halls and clapboard exteriors with modest classical detailing. The largest of these is the former Richmond Village Hall in

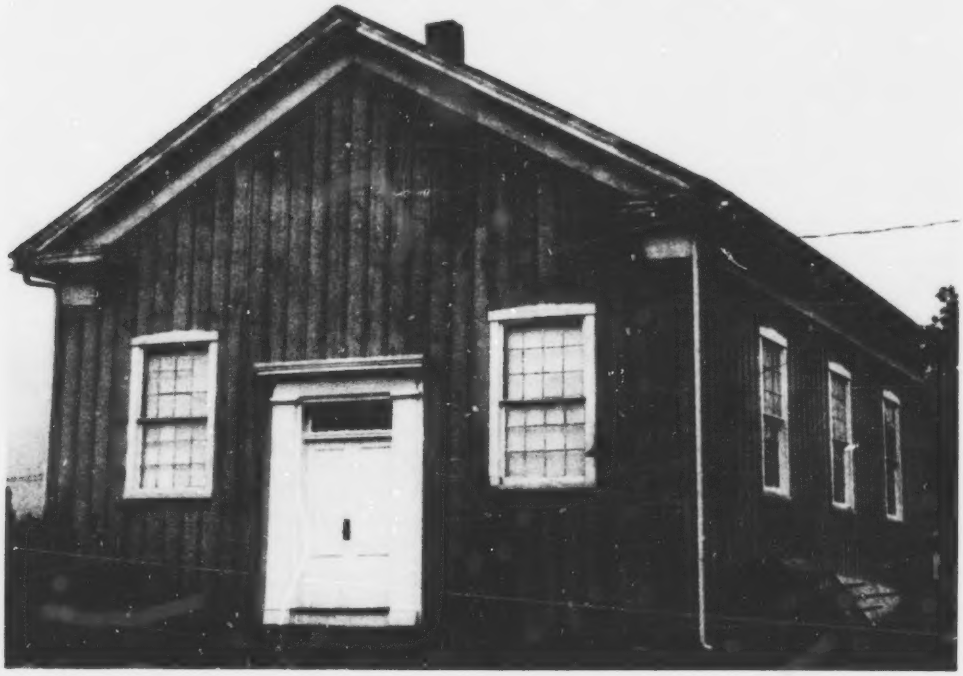


Figure 6. Scott Township Hall, Century Farm, Uxbridge, Ont. Built in 1860, this represents a restored example of the simple, one-room hall common in Ontario during the 19th century. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

Richmond, near Ottawa, erected around 1850. It measures 45 by 90 feet long.[4] Other early frame examples include the Aberfoyle Township Hall, built in 1868; Pickering Township Hall, erected by a community bee in 1857; and Bedford Township Hall in Fermoy, built about 1860 and one of the most simply detailed of the small open-hall category.

The relatively rare use of stone in the construction of some of the earliest rural halls is evidenced in the Beverley Township Hall in Rockton, near Hamilton, Ontario, and in the Humberstone Township Hall in Port Colborne, Ontario, built of local limestone in 1853. Building with stone rather than wood entailed greater expense and was usually facilitated by the presence of a quarry nearby rather than the costly transportation of goods from a more distant source, an expense that only the larger communities could afford. One of the earliest surviving stone township halls built in Canada, the Beverley hall has some unique features. Erected in 1850, it was designed by the council and built by three local farmers. The building was constructed of locally quarried limestone and is simply detailed except for an unusual arcaded front which adds to its impression of solidity. The arcade precluded adding a porch, a feature that now obscures the original facades of many simple municipal halls.[5]

Three other typical halls built in Ontario before 1870 are those of the townships of Cornwall, Kenyon and Rawdon. All three were constructed of locally quarried limestone. With the possible exception of the local church, the Cornwall Township Hall is the largest public building in the south-eastern Ontario township. It was built in 1855.[6] Except for the placement of the main entrance at the side, the Cornwall building resembles the Kenyon Township Hall (Fig. 7).[7] The latter, located in Greenfield in eastern Ontario, was built in 1862 when the population of the township was about 4800.[8] The Rawdon Township Hall in south-central Ontario was constructed in 1863 for a population of about 3600.

Ontario, Post-1870

As the preceding examples demonstrate, township halls built before 1870 in Ontario were generally very simple. After the 1870s, designs and building techniques became more sophisticated and a broader selection of materials had become available. Interesting combinations of brick and stone appeared at this time, because they were both fireproof and available. This is reflected in three township halls located in Ameliasburgh, Sophiasburgh and Euphrasia. All three exhibit decorative elements of the Gothic Revival, a style enthusiastically advocated by John Ruskin and extensively employed during the last half of the 19th century in England and the United States as well as Canada.

The Ameliasburgh Municipal Hall was built in 1874 as a combined town hall and Masonic Lodge. Its style is similar to that of the nearby Methodist church built by the same builder in 1868.[9] The exterior walls consist of locally quarried limestone with quoins, window and door surrounds of smooth ashlar to provide visual contrast and an impression of solidity and weight. Contributing to this effect are the relieving arches above the windows and the pointed arch above the doorway, which are accented with heavy keystones. The door is wide and sufficiently tall to accommodate a large fanlight, the tracery of which forms the Masonic emblem. Another Gothic variation on the open-hall theme in Ontario is the striking and well-preserved Sophiasburgh Township Hall (Fig. 8), built in 1876. The building is situated on a rise and can be seen for miles. Both its architect and builder are unknown, but the graceful proportions and decorative features suggest the hand of an experienced builder or architect.[10]

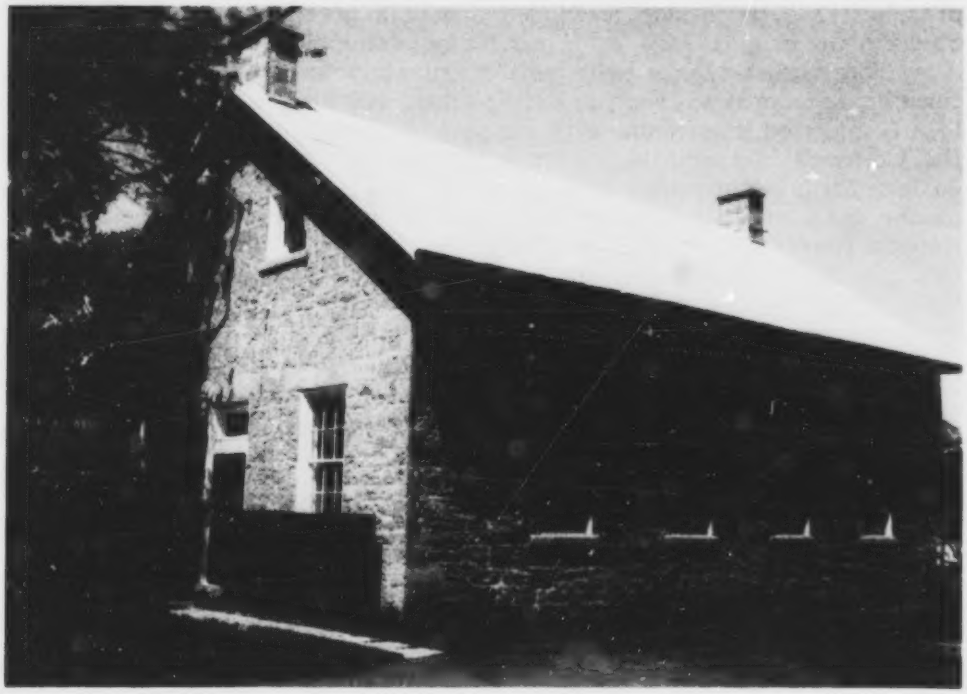


Figure 7. Kenyon Township Hall, Greenfield, Ont. Though the interior has been changed greatly, the 1862 Kenyon Township Hall illustrates the vernacular simplicity of exterior treatment found in many rural civic buildings. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

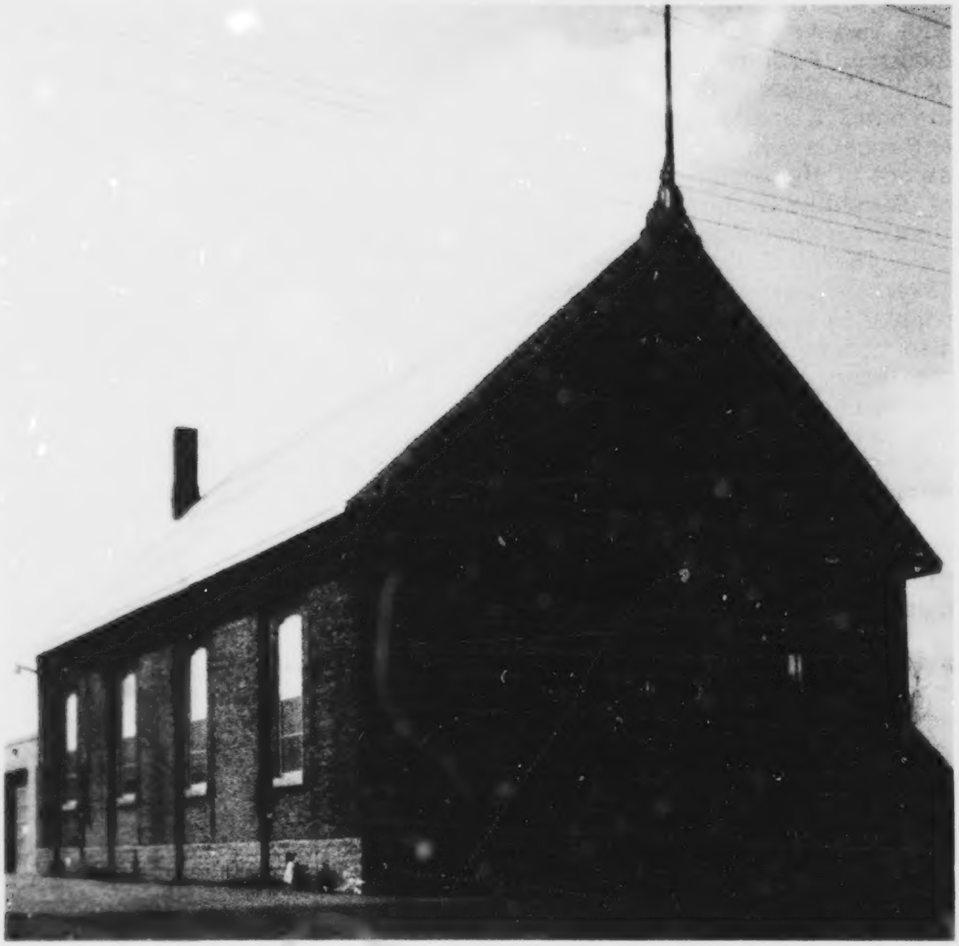


Figure 8. Sophiasburgh Township Hall, Demorestville, Ont. Not all rural town halls were simply designed. The 1876 Sophiasburgh Township Hall is notable for the graceful arches and Gothic Revival ornamentation that distinguish it from other examples. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada – Parks)

The Euphrasia Township Hall was constructed between 1885 and 1886 by two local men. At that time it cost about $2000 to build. The hall provides a particularly good demonstration of the decorative flexibility of brick as a building medium. At a glance, this is one of the most notable characteristics of town halls of this period in Ontario where stone and a wide variety of bricks were abundant and used extensively in the building industry. Radiating voussoirs with pointed arches of alternating yellow and red brick decorate the round-arched window and door openings. The sills, in contrast, are of smooth ashlar. A trefoil or cloverleaf window above the entrance is similarly decorated with alternating colours of brick. One aspect of the design that is uncommon in a building of this size is the use of churchlike Gothic buttresses with offsets of contrasting brick that grace the corners and sides of the building.[11]

The McGillivray Township Hall in West McGillivray, constructed in 1874, is a good example of the use of yellow brick which was particularly popular in southwestern Ontario after the 1870s. The history of this hall is also typical of that of many 19th-century rural halls. For 25 years after the incorporation of McGillivray Township, the council had continued to meet in hotels. In 1874 land was purchased for $6.40 and construction on the present hall was accomplished within the year. The plans were prepared by the council and executed by two local men at low cost. The original heating system for the large open hall consisted of two stoves, a large one located at the back of the hall and a smaller one towards the front. In addition to its administrative and legislative function, the hall is reported to have hosted such activities as dances, school plays, club meetings, showers and baby clinics in the last century. At the turn of the century it was also the site of West McGillivray's annual fall fair with exhibits in the hall and livestock in a nearby field. This type of simply designed hall continued to be erected in Ontario townships right into the 20th century.[12]

Open Halls Outside Ontario

Few halls of the rudimentary, open-hall type have survived in other parts of Canada. Compared with Ontario, the formal development of municipal government advanced much more slowly in the other provinces and territories. In most areas outside Ontario, except for larger cities, control over local affairs remained centralized at the provincial level for a longer time. But by the turn of the century, all of the provinces except Newfoundland had had some experience in municipal hall construction for various levels of local government. Beyond Ontario, only a few of the open halls are extant; fewer appear to have been built in the first place. None, for example, is known to have survived in the Maritimes, if indeed many were built. Research into buildings no longer standing has been limited, so it is possible that subsequent demolition accounts for the lack of examples. Some of the mid-19th-century city halls built in Fredericton, New Brunswick, in fact, closely resembled the simple open hall. No longer standing, they and others of similar scale certainly indicate that the type was not confined to rural areas during the 19th century.

Next to Ontario, rural Quebec has the largest number of extant rudimentary open halls. Although only two are known to have survived in British Columbia, the type was popular there during the last third of the 19th century. This type of frontier hall also served the Prairies during their initial experience with municipal incorporation, although many have been demolished. By the time rural municipalities were being created in large numbers in the Prairies, new concepts of appropriate forms of administrative accommodation were being developed, so the open hall was short-lived compared with areas of the country.

Until well into the 19th century, parish-based officials or local members of the legislature in the French-speaking areas of rural Quebec continued to make submissions to the provincial government for funds for local improvements. A few communities of French origin and several with English or Loyalist roots did, however, claim municipal status soon after enabling legislation was passed in the mid-19th century.

The rural halls of both English-speaking Franklin and French-speaking Cheneville, Quebec, built in 1867 and 1898, respectively, were originally of the open-hall design, but subsequent alterations have somewhat marred the appearance of their exteriors, most dramatically so in the case of the Cheneville hall. Other typical halls of this type in the province include the Melbourne and Hull-Ouest township halls. Formerly the Hull Township Hall, the Hull-Ouest building consisted of one and a half storeys and was constructed of wood with stucco veneer in 1876. Painted quoins of lighter cut stone blocks adorned the corners of the building. In addition to its municipal function, it was used for a dance hall. Outdated as a municipal hall by the 1930s, the building was moved, converted into a private residence and has recently been demolished. The Melbourne Town Hall was built of brick in 1869, nine years after the incorporation of the community.[13]

Four particularly representative examples of the building type extant in Quebec are the town halls of Frelighsburg, Havelock, Pontiac and Ulverton, all rural communities of predominantly English-speaking origin. The township hall of Frelighsburg was built in 1856 of wood. Despite enlargement and renovation in 1913 the building is a rare early frame example. The Havelock Town Hall (Fig. 9), designed by a local draftsman, was erected by a local builder in 1868. Constructed of cut stone, the building consists of two storeys and contains two large halls heated by wood stoves. The one-storey Pontiac Town Hall was constructed in 1877 of red brick with painted white brick trim. To adapt the building to modern municipal requirements, the interior was later partitioned and a fireproof vault attached. The Ulverton Township Hall (Fig. 10) was erected in 1866; like the Adolphustown Municipal Hall in Ontario and many rural churches and schools of the period, its austere façade is windowless.

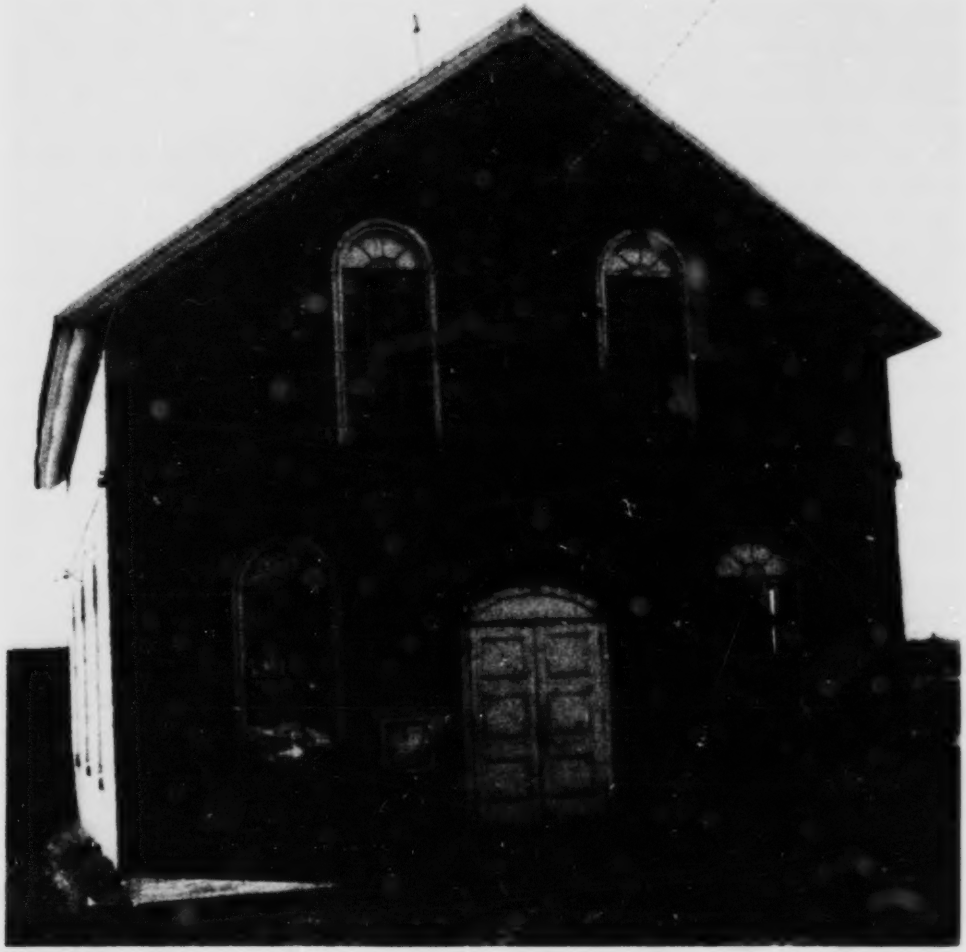


Figure 9. Havelock Town Hall, Havelock, Que., built in 1868. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, M. de Caraffe.)

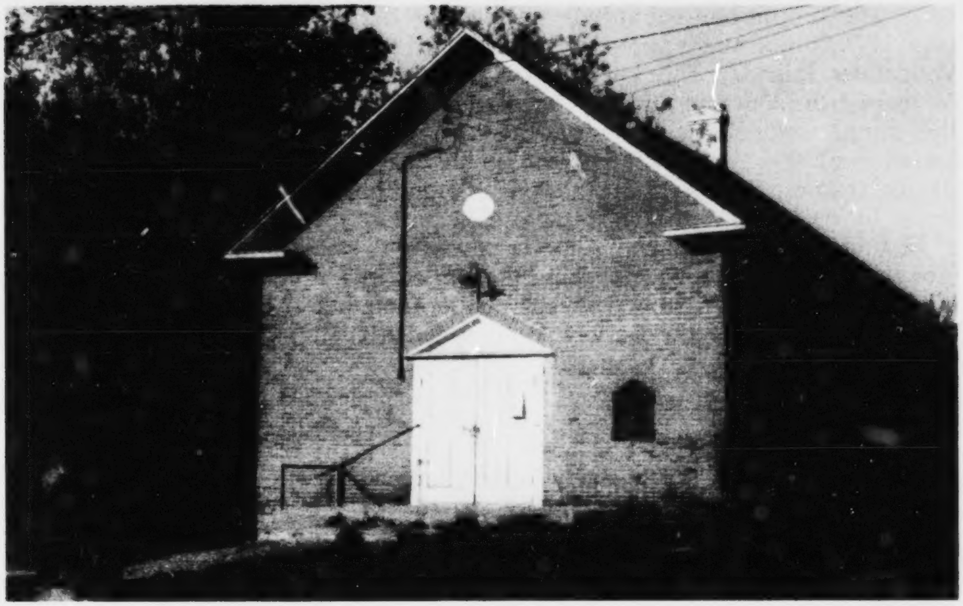


Figure 10. Ulverton Township Hall, Melbourne, Que., built in 1866. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

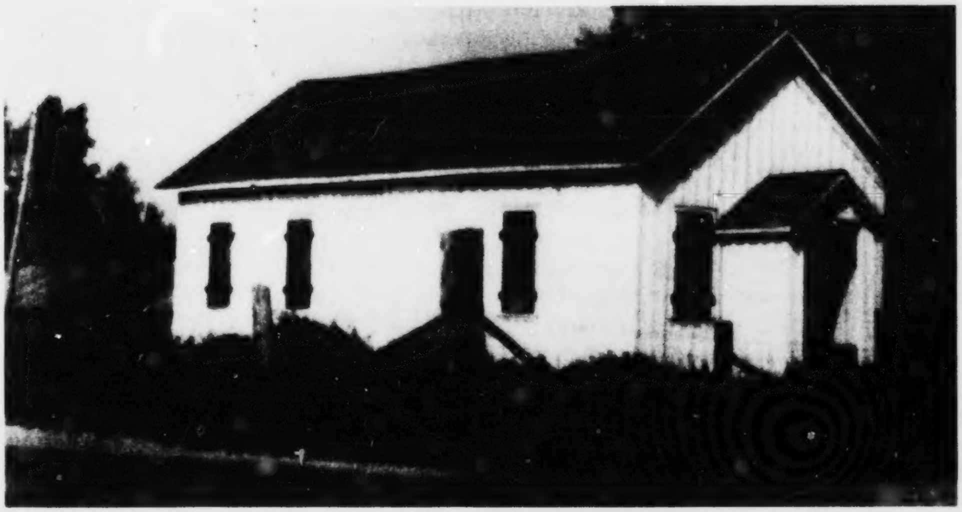


Figure 11. Former Surrey Municipal Hall, Surrey, B.C., built in 1881. (Provincial Archives of British Columbia)

The simple one-room hall appeared in British Columbia in the mid- to late 1870s in a succession of municipalities on the lower mainland and Vancouver Island. The lower mainland was settled to a large extent by farmers from Ontario and this accounts in part for the similarity between the simple clapboard halls of the two provinces. The first recorded instance of the type in British Columbia was in North Cowichan where a simple frame municipal hall (no longer standing) was built for $300 in 1875. More followed, like the first municipal hall of South Vancouver, built in 1892 (demolished) and the Agassiz Municipal Hall, built of wood in 1925 (converted). Invariably constructed of wood, these buildings have suffered a high demolition rate. The only other one known to have survived in British Columbia is the Surrey Municipal Hall (Fig. 11), built of wood in 1881.[14]

The Early Prairie Experience

Although the same standard open-hall plan was adopted to accommodate local government in the small rural communities of Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec, such buildings are a rarity on the Prairies. Several communities in this region, nevertheless, did erect simple open halls. Even those with subdivided interiors in larger municipalities were frequently modelled after the early eastern rudimentary plan. The early Regina City Hall (Fig. 12), built in 1886 and used until 1907, was such a building. A rare interior view (Fig. 13) has been preserved. The early Calgary City Hall (Fig. 14), built in 1885 or 1886 and used until about 1911, appears to have been equally plain, gable-roofed and constructed of wood. It displayed little specialization or ornament. These "first generation" halls and others like them were so elementary in design that it is not surprising that few have survived. They were constructed in a frontier environment, where residents were anxious to demonstrate their sophistication once the quality of life began to improve. This attitude is well illustrated by a story published in the local newspaper when Medicine Hat opened its substantial city hall. It concerns an Englishman living in Calgary in 1906 who had his photograph taken "in regulation western riding togs — top boots, balloon pants, riding jacket and wide-brimmed Stetson hat" for his family back in the "old country." He was standing in front of the old Calgary City Hall. The anecdote concludes:

> In five or six weeks an acknowledgement came, the folks at home congratulating him on his smart appearance, and also on the tidy and well kept appearance of his horse stable. We suppose if one of the city police force happened to be in the doorway when the snap was taken there would have been compliments on son's liveried help, also.[15]

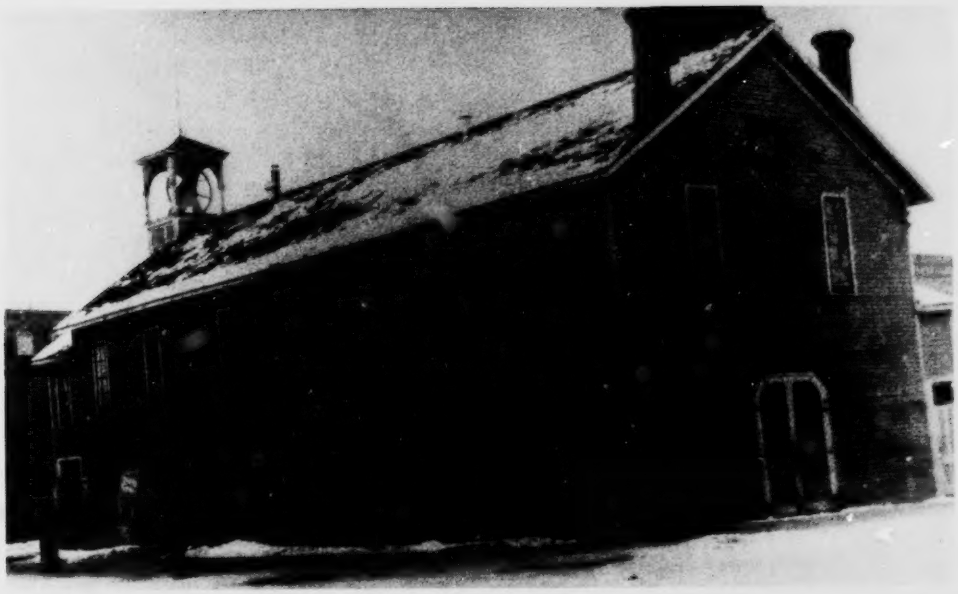


Figure 12. Former Regina City Hall, Sask., 1886-1907 (demolished). Even this two-storey building was designed in the simple gable-roofed style of the earliest rural examples in the country. It was one of the first municipal buildings erected in the Prairies. (Saskatchewan Archives Board)

Figure 13. A rare interior view of the Regina City Hall, Sask. (used from 1886 until 1907 when it was replaced). (Saskatchewan Archives Board)

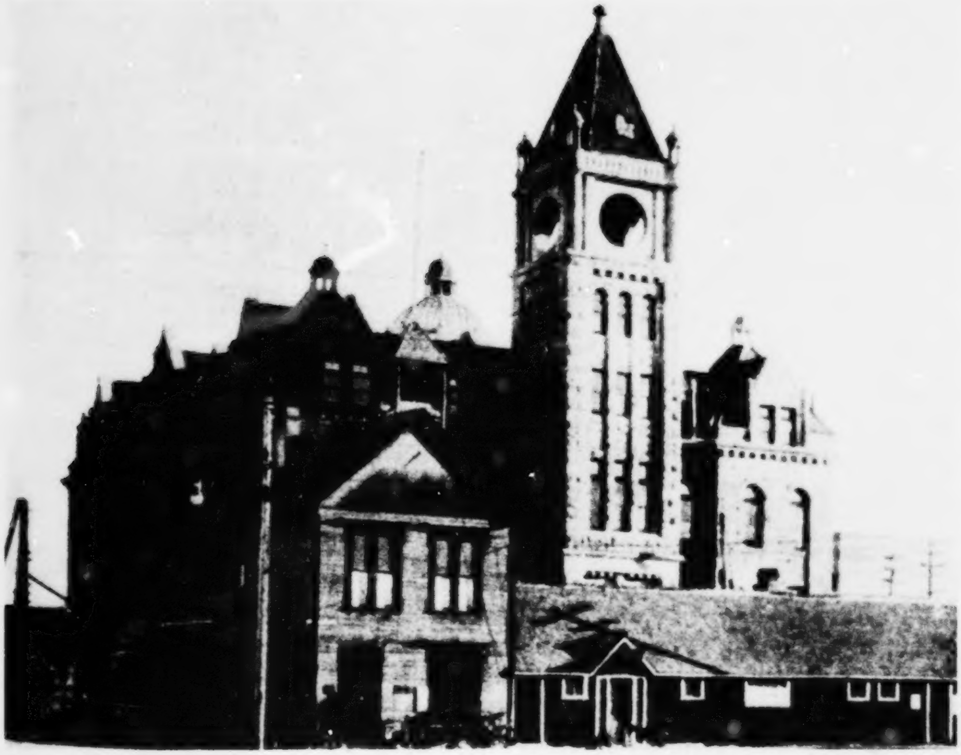


Figure 14. View of two Calgary city halls, one built in 1885 or 1886 and used until about 1911 (*foreground*), the other (*background*) its replacement, as they both appeared in 1910. Note the range of stables attached to the side of the earlier building. (*Canada Magazine*, Vol. 20, No. 260, 31 Dec. 1910, p. 390)

Although some of the designs of the early "unspecialized" (legislative and administrative functions combined) rural municipal halls in the Prairies resemble the plain, gable-roofed open halls of Eastern Canada on the exterior, their interiors appear to have been divided into offices from the beginning. In general, however, the small Prairie town or municipal hall has a different style. Considering that most of them were built in the 20th century to serve a more complex system of administration than the early Ontario halls, this is not surprising.

An appropriate introduction to the typical Prairie rural municipal hall is the following comment of Sydney M. Wickett on the type of administration it accommodated: "Early municipal bodies appear to have been very simple and business-like in their structure. They were off-springs of local conditions, not copies from earlier Canada or other countries."[16]

By the late 19th century, when rural population bases had developed sufficiently to require a more complex system of local self-government, the perspective on local government was beginning to change in many areas of the country. The accent on the specifically administrative function was increasing, and at the rudimentary level this meant a building to house the municipal offices and council chamber. While this changing perspective in other parts of the country was demonstrated by the erection of interior partitions within the open hall, and/or fireproof annexes, many rural communities on the Prairies were erecting their first municipal halls in the 20th century. Lacking the eastern tradition, they appear to have done it with a more single-minded approach to the administrative function.

An article in the *Western Municipal News* in 1938 outlined the development of these rural accommodations in the Prairies. They began with the establishment of local improvement districts and the formation of rural municipalities:

> These years were years of pioneering and of making adjustments to meet new conditions. At first we found that the secretary of the municipality was a farmer of the district and the location of his farm home placed the office at his home. That has continued in many cases as an immediate and sometimes a very satisfactory location of the office buildings. In those cases where it was out of line we have found that a compromise was reached with by the secretary visiting at various points as the occasion arose for the providing of services and the holding of regular council meetings.[17]

The initial services to which the writer refers included responsibility for drainage, education, liquor licences, the administration of justice and local financial matters.

Although many of these buildings were demolished as they became outdated, some representative examples have survived; these include the municipal offices of Perdue, Saskatchewan, and Strathclair, Manitoba, built in 1930 and between 1904 and 1905, respectively. The picturesque Perdue building has a broken roofline. Its interior consists of several small offices and a council room. The Strathclair hall, constructed of wood with brick veneer, bears a striking exterior similarity to the gable-roofed township halls of Quebec and Ontario. It has a symmetrically detailed gable-end front consisting of a main entrance flanked on either side by a rectangular window with a round window above and prominent quoins at the sides. Designed by architects S.F. and W.A. Peters of Winnipeg, the building is 37 by 70 feet long. Originally it contained cells in the basement and two small rooms on either side of the main entrance. A large meeting hall with gallery and stage dominated the interior.[18]

In 1908 the *Western Municipal News* published an article recommending an appropriate design for a small two-storey municipal or village hall. Both the Strathclair and Perdue buildings conform to the general layout recommended (Figs. 15 and 16). The model building is plain, gable-roofed and constructed of brick and stone. Its auditorium was two storeys high and was lighted by two tiers of windows running along the side of the building. To accommodate future expansion, the two-storey hall could be divided into two floors.[19] Other examples of simple halls in the Prairies include the village hall of Abbey, built of wood between 1916 and 1917 and measuring only 24 by 40 feet long; Bengough, erected in 1926; Ceylon, built between 1912 and 1913; and Hazlet (1929), Mortlach (ca. 1914-17), Pangman (1921) and Star City (1919).

The one-storey, brick rural municipal hall of Eston, Saskatchewan, was built in 1925. Constructed for the rural municipality of Snipe Lake, it

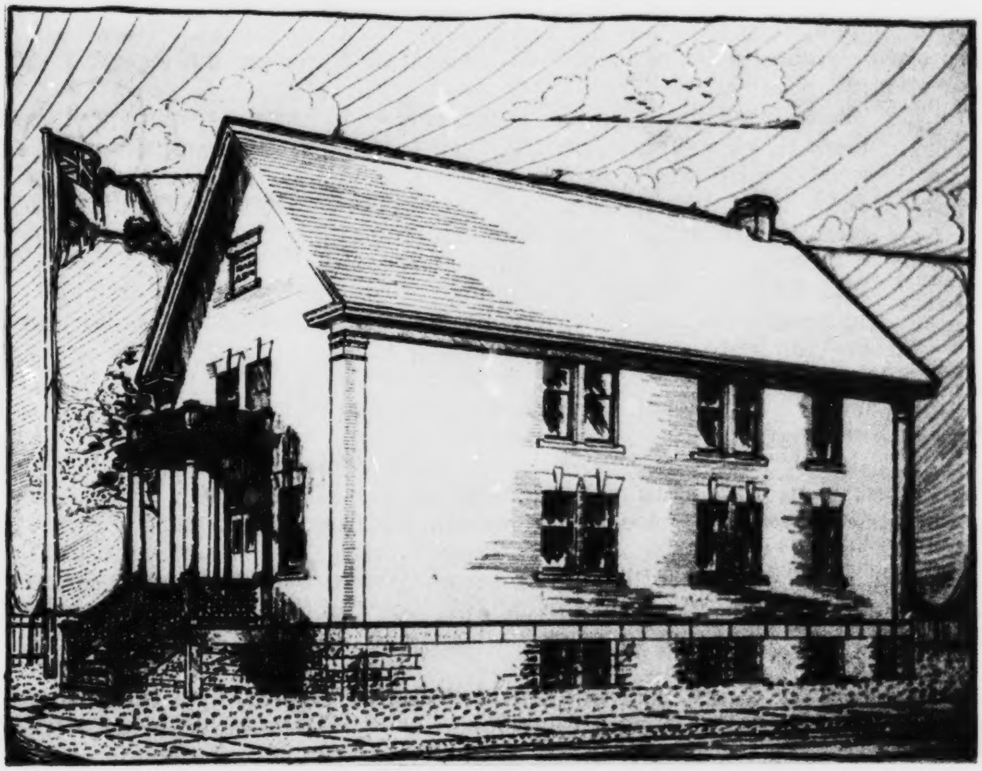
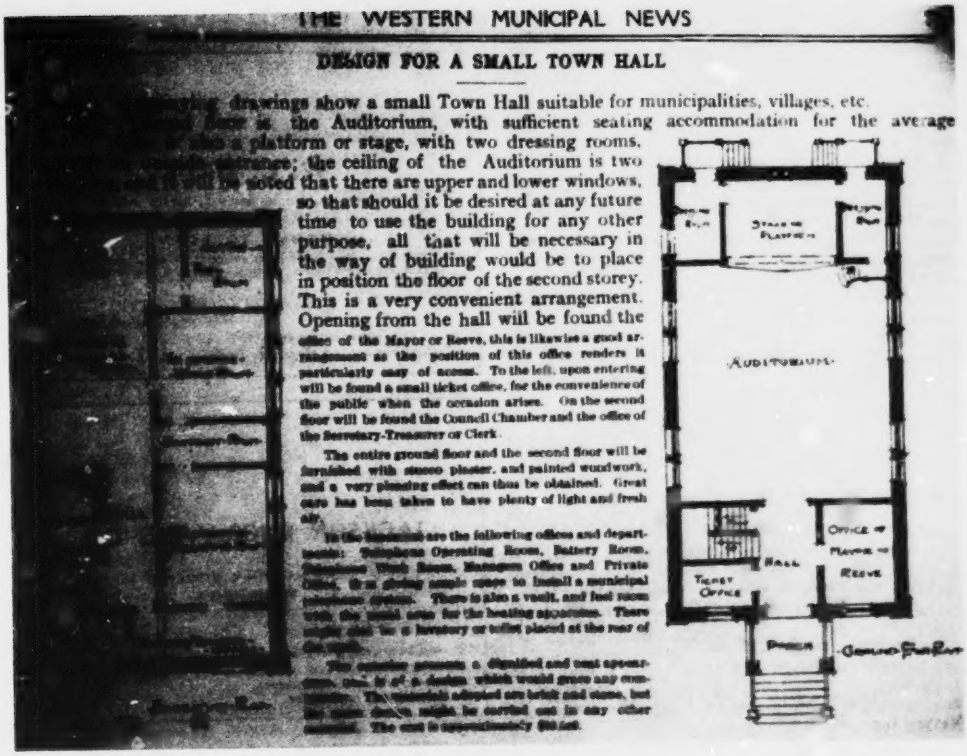


Figure 15. Recommended elevation for a small Prairie town or village hall, published in *Western Municipal News* in 1908. In the plan (Fig. 16), the auditorium occupies most of the upper storey, while municipal business offices are situated on the lower floor. (*Western Municipal News*, Vol. 3, No. 3, March 1908, p. 703)



THE WESTERN MUNICIPAL NEWS

DESIGN FOR A SMALL TOWN HALL

[illegible] drawings show a small Town Hall suitable for municipalities, villages, etc. [illegible] the Auditorium, with sufficient seating accommodation for the average [illegible] a platform or stage, with two dressing rooms, [illegible] entrance; the ceiling of the Auditorium is two [illegible] noted that there are upper and lower windows, so that should it be desired at any future time to use the building for any other purpose, all that will be necessary in the way of building would be to place in position the floor of the second storey. This is a very convenient arrangement. Opening from the hall will be found the office of the Mayor or Reeve, this is likewise a good arrangement as the position of this office renders it particularly easy of access. To the left, upon entering will be found a small ticket office, for the convenience of the public when the occasion arises. On the second floor will be found the Council Chamber and the office of the Secretary-Treasurer or Clerk.

The entire ground floor and the second floor will be furnished with stucco plaster, and painted woodwork, and a very pleasing effect can thus be obtained. Great care has been taken to have plenty of light and fresh air.

In the [illegible] are the following offices and departments: Telephone Operating Room, Battery Room, [illegible] Work Room, Managers Office and Private Office, [illegible] ample space to install a municipal [illegible] system. There is also a vault, and fuel room [illegible] for the heating apparatus. There might also be a lavatory or toilet placed at the rear of [illegible].

The exterior presents a dignified and neat appearance, [illegible] of a design which would grace any [illegible]. The materials adopted are brick and stone, but [illegible] might be carried out in any other [illegible]. The cost is approximately [illegible].

Figure 16. Plan for a small Prairie town or village hall. (*Western Municipal News*, Vol. 3, No. 3, March 1908, p. 703)

is a good example of the small rural municipal office building erected in the Prairies in the early 20th century for populations under 6000. Other gable-roofed, simple halls were adorned with the boomtown fronts then popular in the region. Examples of these include halls built for the rural municipalities of McKillop, Saskatchewan, built in 1927; Miniota, Manitoba, erected between 1910 and 1911; and Argyle, Manitoba, built in 1927.

As more substantial construction materials, such as brick, became more readily available, the nature of the small buildings changed. Although they remained at the low end of the scale in size and function, they appeared more substantial and solid when stronger building materials were employed in their construction. The buildings at Snipe Lake and Mortlach, for example, use different construction materials, but functionally they are merely variations on the same theme, the only variable being the stage of local resource development at the time each was built.

More Sophisticated Designs

Simple municipal halls of a more sophisticated design also exist. While not significantly different from previous examples in terms of simplicity of layout, or actual space devoted to the municipal function, they represent a variation on the simple open-hall theme in that they are less boxlike and their exterior surface is more decorative and sculptural. These buildings incorporate somewhat "pretentious" ornamentation in their designs in an attempt to create a monumental type of public architecture within the rural context. They reflect an evolution in design, influenced by the time of construction, the size of the community and its stage of development. The addition or application of prominent porticoed entrances, cupolas or towers and sculptural detail makes these buildings more readily identifiable as public architecture. Although they are based on the standard open-hall design, their additional features provide a more conspicuous focal point.

The increased ornamentation that distinguishes such halls from their contemporaries often took the form of pilasters or engaged columns framing the main entrance or a conspicuous pediment. The addition of a cupola was also popular. One author described the latter as "the almost universal badge of English public buildings," for it was the traditional ornament of all of the small town halls and customs houses in England and was extensively adopted in many 18th-century public buildings in colonial America.[20]

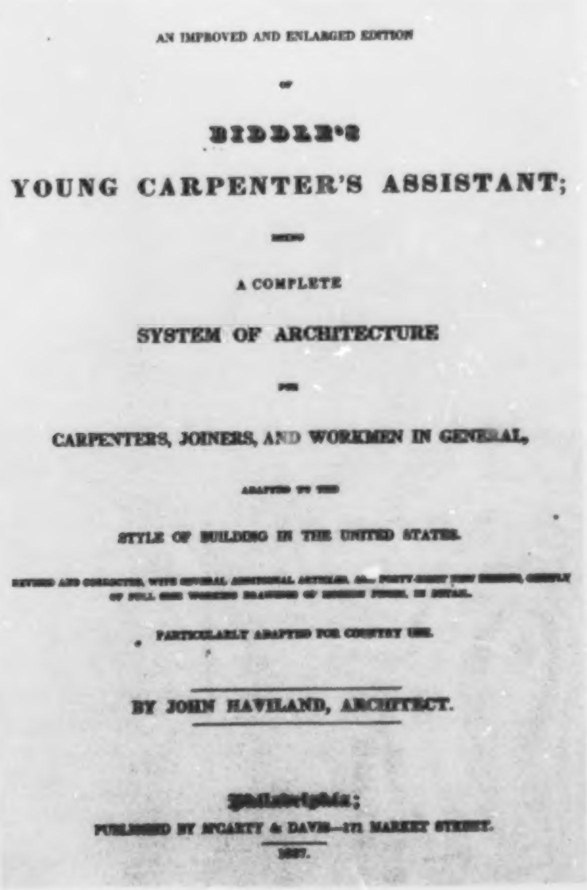
The use of decorative elements to place the halls visually a step above the local domestic buildings was no doubt facilitated by the availability of builders' handbooks published either in England or the United States. To some extent, however, English designs had to be translated to accommodate different climatic conditions in America. Consequently, in the early period, American architectural publications served as more popular interpretations of the prevailing building styles.

One of the best known of these was Owen Biddle's *The Young Carpenter's Assistant; or a System of Architecture Adapted to the Style of Building in the United States*. The first edition was published in Philadelphia by Benjamin Johnson in 1805; new and enlarged editions of this handbook continued to be printed at various dates during the first half of the 19th century, suggesting widespread use. Its influence was increased by the printing of John Haviland's *An Improved and Enlarged Edition of Biddle's Young Carpenter's Assistant*, published in Philadelphia in 1837 (Fig. 17).

Although these publications were important in colonial America, their influence extended far beyond that time, for architecture, public or otherwise, in small communities tended to remain traditional and conservative. In his book entitled *Early American Architecture from the First*

Colonial Settlements to the National Period, Hugh Morrison describes the use of handbooks:

> Since there were few professional architects, most buildings in the colonies were designed by owners assisted by carpenter-builders, who together would lay out the chief elements of the plan and structure. The handbooks were used less for plans of buildings or elevations of whole façades than they were for details, particularly such features as doorways, mantlepieces, cornices, windows, and cabinetwork.[21]



AN IMPROVED AND ENLARGED EDITION

OF

BIDDLE'S

YOUNG CARPENTER'S ASSISTANT;

BEING

A COMPLETE

SYSTEM OF ARCHITECTURE

FOR

CARPENTERS, JOINERS, AND WORKMEN IN GENERAL,

ADAPTED TO THE

STYLE OF BUILDING IN THE UNITED STATES.

PARTICULARLY ADAPTED FOR COUNTRY USE.

BY JOHN HAVILAND, ARCHITECT.

Philadelphia;
PUBLISHED BY M'CARTY & DAVIS—171 MARKET STREET.
1837.

Figure 17. Title page of a popular carpenters' plan book, republished in Philadelphia in 1837 from the 1805 edition. (John Haviland, *Biddle's Young Carpenter's Assistant*, Philadelphia: M'Carty & Davis, 1837, title page)

This encouraged the retention of the simple form of gable- or hip-roofed structure, clapboard if of wood, with ancillary architectural details sometimes reflecting the styles of the larger urban buildings in diminutive scale. Some of these buildings were, however, designed by professional architects, as was the Wolfe Island Township Hall, and the exteriors of such buildings usually makes this evident.

The style of the small town hall of Bath (Fig. 18), near Kingston, Ontario, built of wood in 1861, suggests the influence of such pattern books, although no records specifically confirm this link. For example, *Biddle's Young Carpenter's Assistant* explains, among other basic features of classical architecture, the porticoed entrance and gives two illustrations (Fig. 19) of more formalized façades recommended for small town halls.

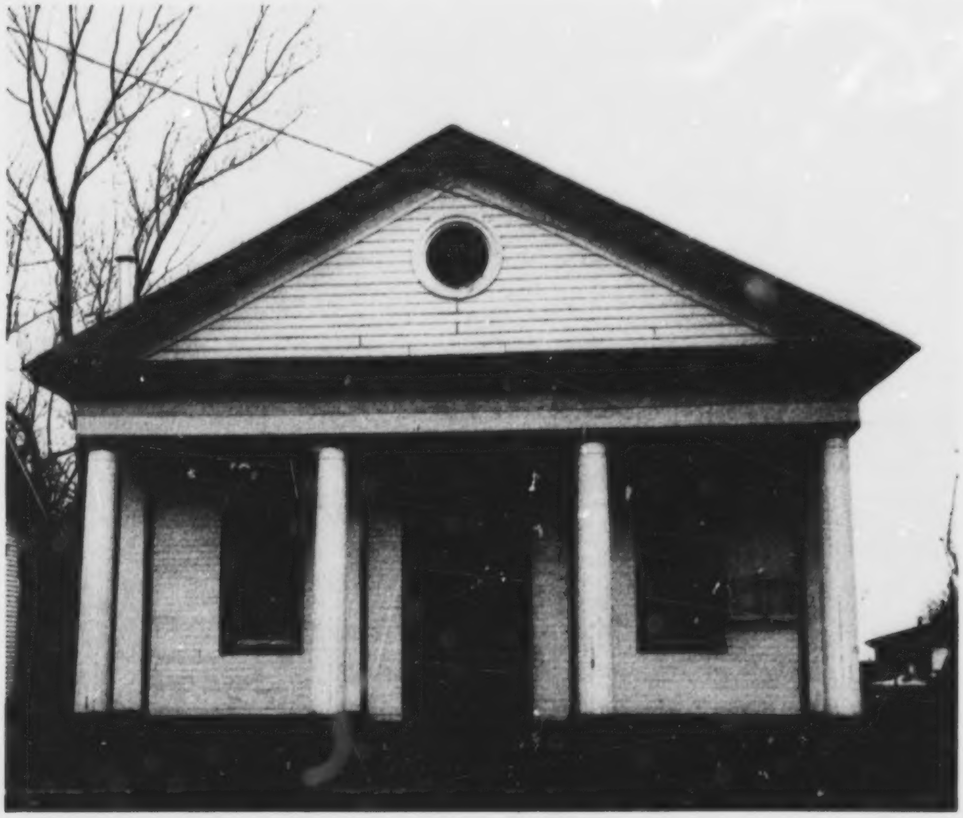


Figure 18. Bath Town Hall, Bath, Ont., built in 1861, front elevation. Compare the composition of this elevation with Figure 19. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

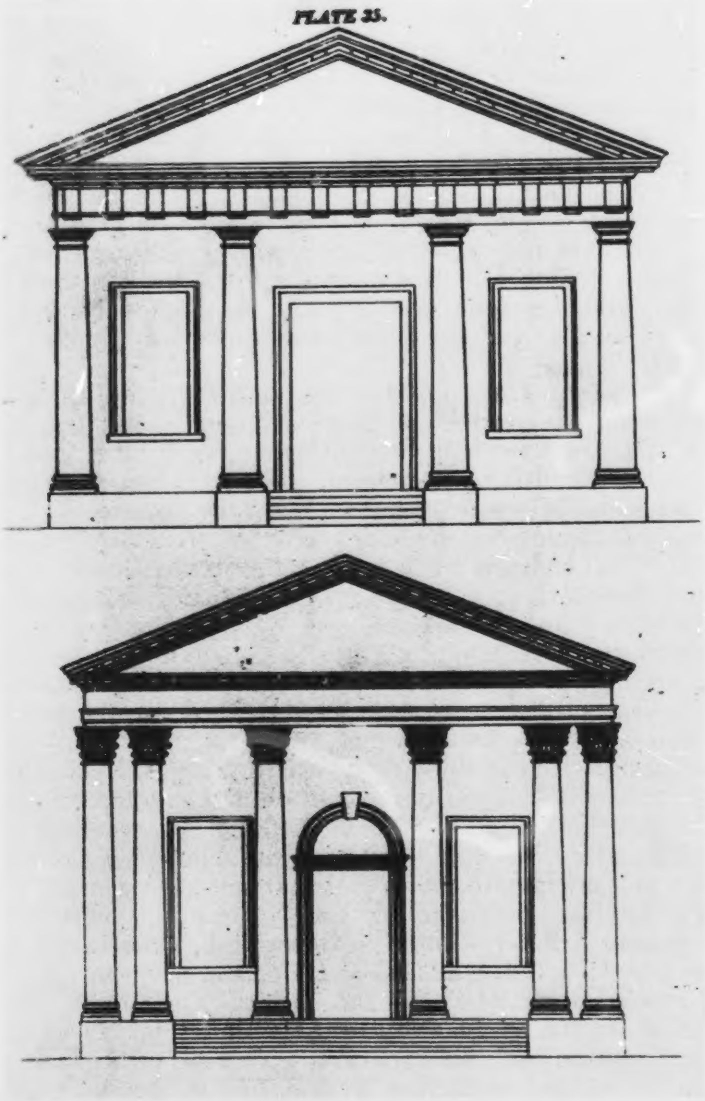


Figure 19. This plate, from the 1837 edition of *Biddle's Young Carpenter's Assistant*, was designed to illustrate the basic orders used for facades of public buildings. Such handbooks were widely available in North America during the 19th century and may have influenced the design of modestly scaled civic buildings. (John Haviland, *Biddle's Young Carpenter's Assistant*, Philadelphia: M'Carty & Davis, 1837)

Although Biddle's design is of a different classical order than that of the Bath building, the same traditional arrangement of basic features – columns, tympanum, windows and central entrance – is used in both. The Bath building is the only small open hall extant in Canada that is known to have been built specifically in the style of the Greek Revival, but the fact that its design is classical with a gable-end façade, makes it typical of the simple-hall genre. It was built for a small village of 600 people.

One of the earliest surviving buildings that has a pedimented gable-end façade is the Wellesley Township Hall in Crosshill, Ontario. Built in 1854, it is constructed of well-cut fieldstone of varying shades of pink, grey and brown. In fact, it is one of only a few Canadian town halls built of fieldstone. Like its Bath counterpart, the façade of the Wellesley Township Hall consists of a prominent central doorway flanked by a large window on each side.

The Wolfe Island Township Hall (Fig. 20), built in 1859 of hammer-dressed limestone, is another distinctive design. Its original layout followed the standard open-hall plan but unlike many other small buildings of its type, it was architect designed, in the ornate Italianate mode. The plans were prepared by major Kingston architect Edward Horsey, the designer of several prominent buildings erected in southeastern Ontario during the mid-19th century, including the Frontenac County Court House (1854-58) and the Cataraqui Bridge (1844). Horsey was also the chief architect of the Kingston Penitentiary.[22]

Not all of the more ornate designs for single halls were provided by professional architects. The East Flamborough Township Hall in Ontario, for example, was built between 1856 and 1857 of locally quarried limestone; its designer was a local farmer, Walter Grieves. In construction material and design, it resembles the church beside it. A major variation of the early standard plan, the East Flamborough building consists of two storeys with one open hall on each level (Fig. 21). Its detailing is classical and the traditional cupola distinguishes it as a public building. Similar examples of small ornamented town halls without the cupola are the stone township halls for Rear of Yonge and Escott Township, built in 1857, and the brick township hall for Clinton in Beamsville, Ontario, built in 1851. The latter was constructed as a Masonic Lodge and township hall.

Other examples in Ontario – and variations are most noticeable in this province – are the Pittsburgh Township Hall (Fig. 22), built in 1886; the Cramahe Township Hall, built in 1891, with walls of brick arranged in a variety of patterns and a façade in the British administrative style; Ancaster Town Hall, built in 1871; and the Raleigh Township Hall of 1908. Also in this group is the Oxford-on-Rideau Township Hall (Fig. 23), built in 1875 of stone. The latter is a two-storey hall-over-hall design with prominent paired brackets at the eaves and a handsome cupola. Designed by an architect, the township hall of Percy in Warkworth is another hall-over-hall type, built in 1884.

While the exteriors of many of these buildings remain intact, the interiors have undergone significant changes in response to their functional evolution. A considerable amount of information concerning the history of the Bertie Township Hall is available and the changes in this building accurately represent the functional and structural evolution of the type. The township of Bertie hired a local stonemason to erect a classically detailed, two-storey stone building with a slate roof in Ridgeway, Ontario. The Bertie hall originally consisted of one large room with only a two-foot-high platform at the east end. It cost $2495, its funding aided partly by a grant from the province's Municipal Loan Fund. Incorporated in 1850, the community had held its meetings in various taverns until the construction of the present hall. A big rectangular stove "made of cast iron and capable of digesting 4 foot sticks of cord-wood" heated the hall. Among the early furnishings for the building, as recorded in the minutes of the council, were coal oil lamps, bookcases, curtains and spittoons.[23]

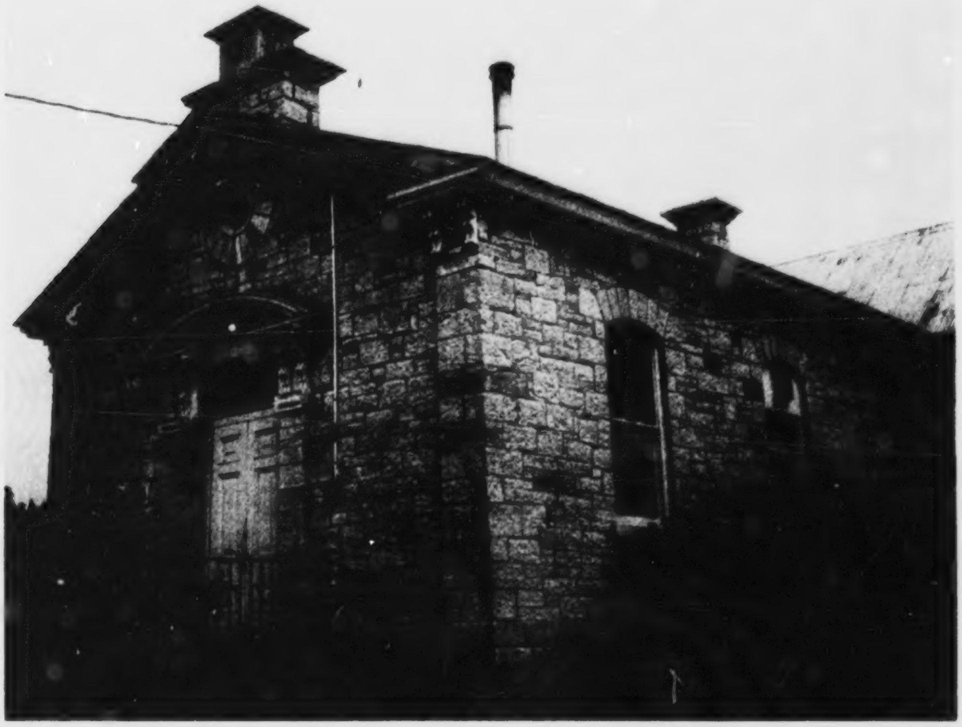


Figure 20. Wolfe Island Township Hall, Ont., built in 1859. Architect designed, this hall is stylistically more sophisticated than many of the open-room halls. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

The concerns of this early council are indicated in the minutes of the second meeting of the council, which recorded the appointment of pound keepers to deal with horses, rams, boars and pigs and the establishment of fines for allowing animals to run at large. In addition to its local government function, the hall was used for most community gatherings, plays, concerts, picture shows, dances and travelling shows including a dramatic presentation of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." A local church also held its first religious services here in 1911. A small jail adjoined the building at the rear. Offices and additional rooms were eventually provided in the upper storey and the balcony floor was later extended across the second floor to create a full second storey.

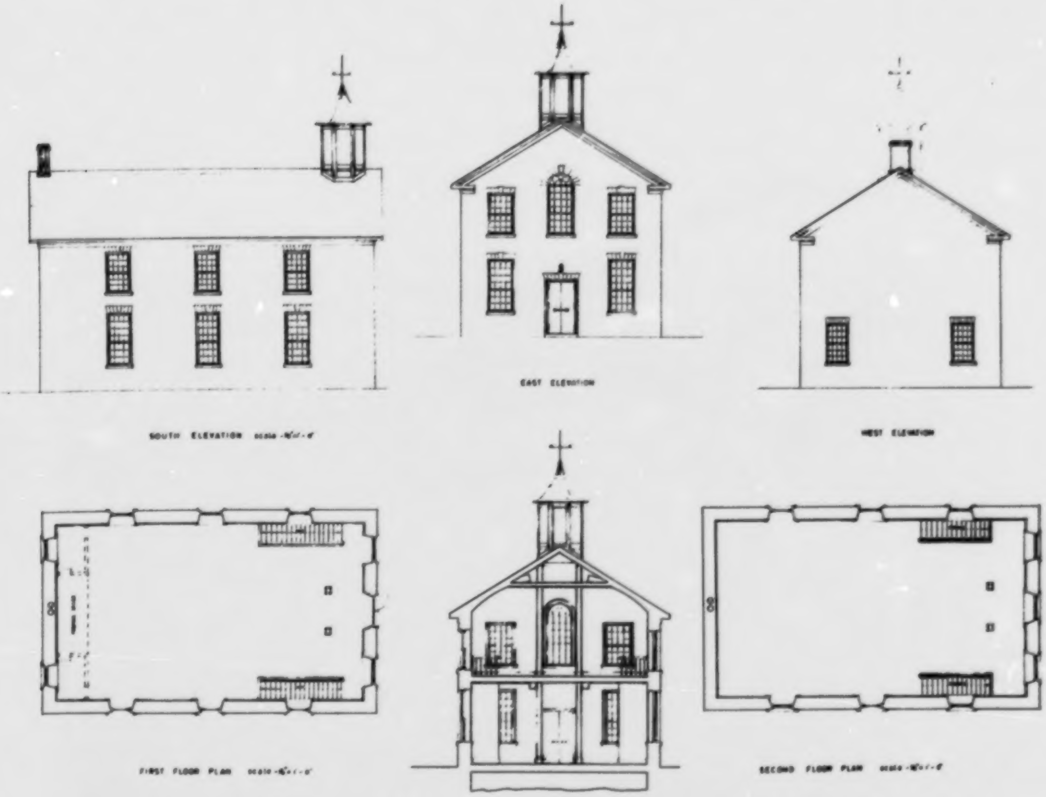


Figure 21. Redrawn plans of East Flamborough Township Hall, Waterdown, Ont., built between 1856 and 1857 of locally quarried limestone. The building consists of two storeys and tower, an almost indispensable element in the designs of the larger 19th-century town and city halls in the country. Its interior layout still resembles the simplest type, with one hall over the other. (Archives of Ontario)

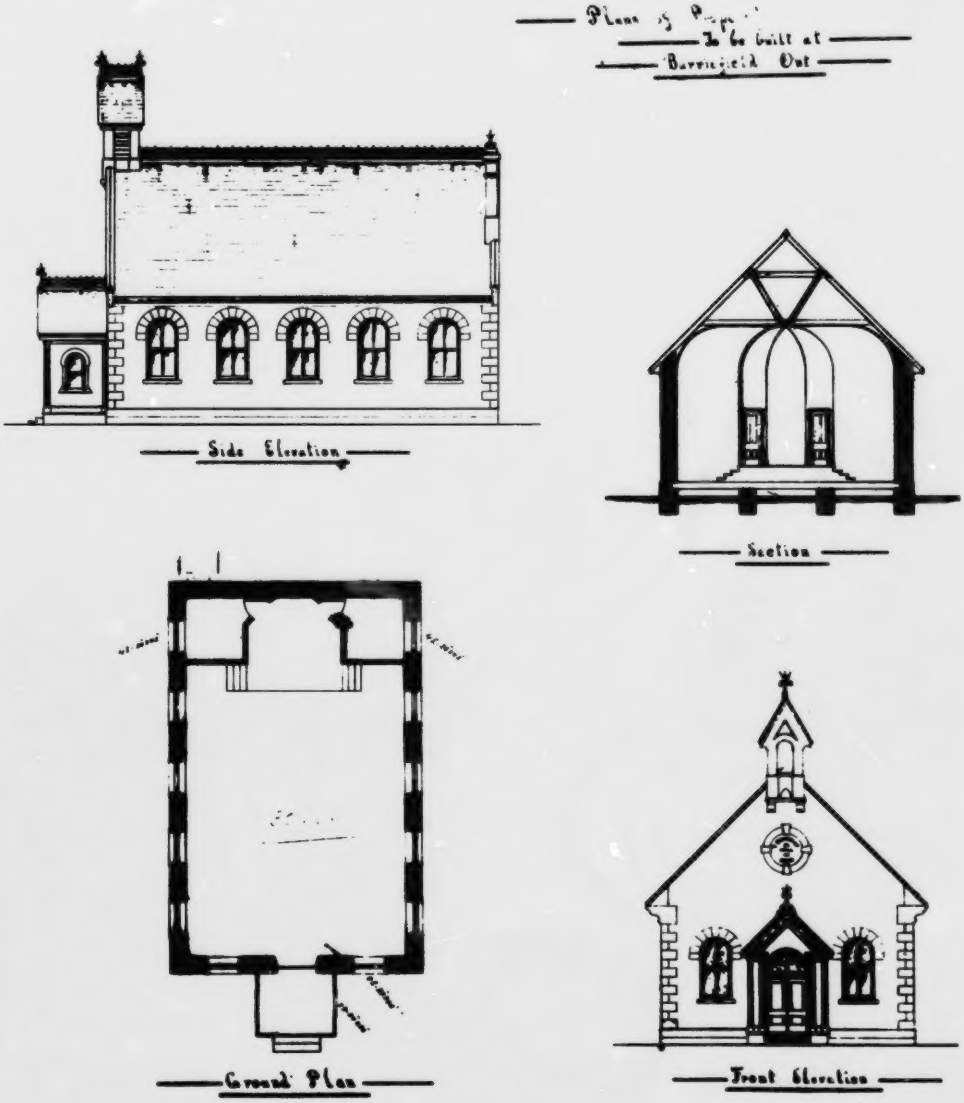

Plans of Prop
To be built at
Barriefield Ont
Side Elevation
Section
Ground Plan
Front Elevation

Figure 22. Plans of Pittsburgh Township Hall, Ont., built in 1886. A more sophisticated design for an open hall, the ground floor plan shows a large room with a stage and dressing rooms on either side. External decorations include a cupola, iron cresting along the spine of the roof, a small front porch and rich wall detail. (*Newlands Papers*, Queen's University Archives)

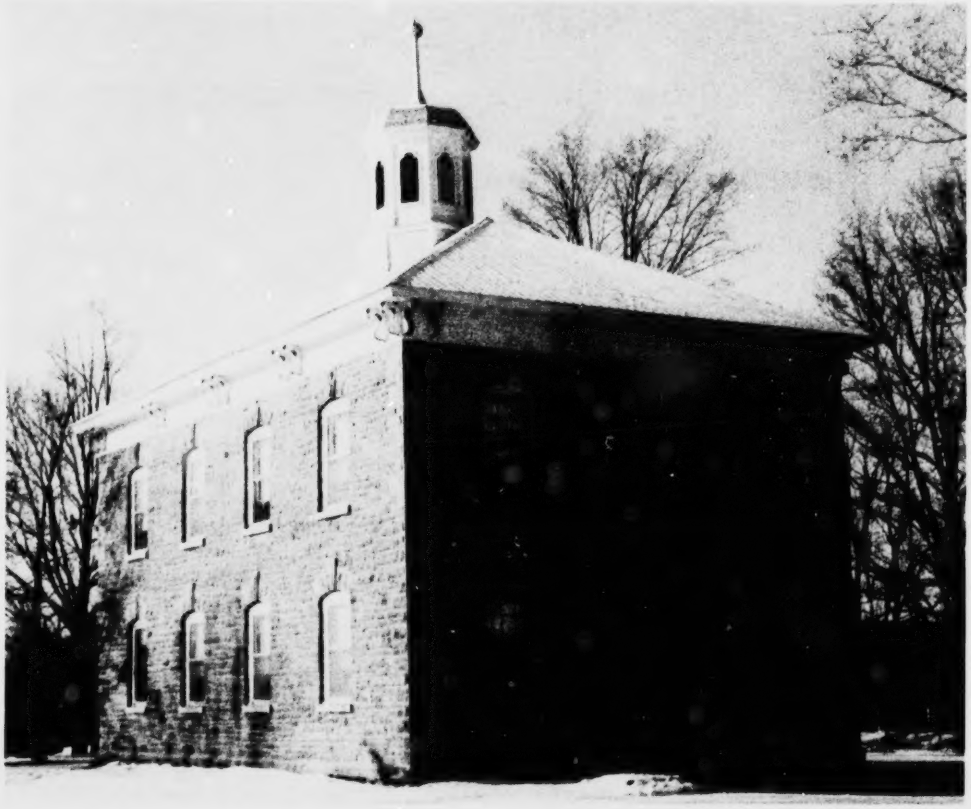


Figure 23. Oxford-on-Rideau Township Hall, Ont., built in 1875. Like many buildings in the Rideau Corridor, this edifice exhibits fine masonry detail. The original interior arrangement of two open halls has been changed, but the exterior, including eaves detail and cupola, is in excellent condition. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

The "Office Complex"

As the administrative nature of local governments became more complex and specialized, office space for a full-time, professional staff was required. This evolution is even more evident in the larger scale city halls as described previously, and is also reflected in the more recent history of the Bertie Township Hall. In Bertie, as in most Ontario townships, the 1950s marked a decade of major internal renovations to permit the consolidation of all municipal offices in one building. The interior barely resembles the original. A small office used for some years by the Ontario Provincial Police was taken over by the assessment department. Of the three jail cells to the rear, one was converted to make an office for the roads superintendent, another for storage and the third for a kitchen. The lofty council chambers on the lower floor was converted into three offices for the assessment department, and space for a new council chamber was provided on the second floor by extending the balcony across the width of the building. The hall provided offices for the public health nurse and the water superintendent who was given office space for the first time. From a simple open hall, the building had gradually evolved into a more complex administrative hall.

Increasing municipal business changed the layouts of some town halls as the 20th century progressed. Small municipalities were undergoing a broadening of responsibilities and centralization of business which paralleled that of their more sophisticated urban counterparts. An office building, not a single open hall, answered the problem of accommodation. In 1905 *Municipal World* described the beginning of this change in Ontario township hall requirements:

> Business has more than doubled in amount, and increased greatly in importance, it is recognized by all who have to do with the administration of rural public affairs, and to-day there is an awakening as to the use a township hall can be put to. Better business methods are being introduced and the impression is growing that rural clerks and treasurers who for the greater part are receiving much more adequate salaries than they used to receive, should have their offices in the township hall, even if only two or three hours daily, and thus place their services at the disposal of those who have business with the townships at much greater convenience both to themselves and the ratepayers than the present time-wasting and inefficient methods of transacting municipal business.[24]

Other areas across the country also perceived and accommodated this new impetus. Although many rural communities recognized the inadequacies of the outdated open halls, they were often reluctant to replace them. No doubt the limited business and small number of employees, compared with larger centres, as well as the unpopular process of increased taxation, made it possible for rural communities to retain the open-hall form long after its administrative inefficiency had been detected and widely accepted. In smaller rural communities with their less transient populations, the hall represented a social tradition not readily abandoned. The social interaction and closer and more frequent contact among the inhabitants made a rigid, formal system of administration far less urgent than in the cities. The early 20th-century literature criticizing the municipal hall of the frontier indicated a new consciousness, and after the 19th-century small communities without an open hall were likely to adopt a more "administrative" design.

THE SPECIALIZED MULTI-USE TOWN HALL

As communities reached a certain population level within a compact geographical area, the "town hall" took a different form from that of the rudimentary municipal halls. The second half of the 19th century marked the beginning of a new era in town and city hall design throughout the western world (see also "Monumental Town and City Halls in Canada," by G.E. Mills). In Canada during this period, new political, economic and demographic movements that led to the creation of many towns and cities were taking place. At the same time, municipal governments were formed and buildings were erected to house them. These structures were more complex in function than their rural counterparts. Their designs were created within a contemporary milieu of intensive industrialization, extensive urbanization, rapid scientific advances and humanitarian enlightenment. The urban centres in which such buildings were constructed served large populations of mixed economic, occupational and ethnic backgrounds. Powerful, often conflicting, private industrial and commercial interests and ever-widening economic hinterlands necessitated increasingly complex and authoritative municipal government. Understandably, these municipal buildings required a corresponding sense of scale and monumentality. Their size and design provided cohesion and focus for the community.

General Characteristics

Compared with the open-room halls, the spatial organization of the village or town hall tended to be more complex. Instead of a single room, even the least sophisticated among them usually incorporated an office with a vault for the clerk, a public meeting room and a smaller council chamber. Considering the representative nature of municipal government in larger centres, the council chamber had to be separate and used solely for that purpose. The large auditorium that dominated the design of many of the earliest rural halls did not disappear, however. It remained a common and important feature of the late 19th-century Canadian (as well as American and English) municipal hall, for it provided a cultural centre financed by the taxpayers. Often known as the "concert hall" or, towards the end of the century, the "opera hall," it was located in the upper storey while the town business offices were placed in the more accessible ground storey.

By the 1870s, civic courtrooms and police stations were also frequently associated with town offices as were jails, fire halls, private offices and commercial space. The municipally supported library, too, was occasionally accommodated in the town hall, an indication of the growing recognition in many western countries of the need to make educational opportunities accessible to all citizens. As early as the 1830s, this had been a function of several town halls in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The market was also incorporated into the multipurpose town hall of the 19th century. A market building erected in 1889, for example, served as Vancouver's city hall between 1898 and 1929.[25]

Origin of Design

Most of the 19th-century urban town halls were designed by professional architects appointed by the local council. Their styles reflect those of the same period in both England and the United States, indicating both financial prosperity and an increased Canadian awareness of building design. One reason for this was a greater number of architects. Not only were architectural schools operating in Canada by the 1890s but immigration had also made a more diverse selection of architects available. Moreover, the late 19th century was marked by a proliferation of publications on recommended designs for buildings of all types, and the circulation of these was not restricted to the building trades.

One of several publications by the prominent American architectural firm, Palliser, Palliser & Co., was *Palliser's American Architecture; or Every Man a Complete Builder*, copyrighted in 1888 and published in New York. This book and others like it recommended the use of fireproof materials for all public buildings, and certainly most 19th-century urban centres paid heed, for many had experienced devastating fires. *Palliser's American Architecture* also contains a plan for a small American town hall for a population of from 4000 to 5000 people that is of particular relevance to buildings included in this study. The architects recommended that the roof of the two-storey structure be a conspicuous feature. The basement contained a heater and coal room, four cells, a courtroom, the police chief's office and a fire engine room. On the ground level were another courtroom with judge and jury rooms, the town clerk's office with a large fireproof vault, and several other offices for municipal lawyers. Above was a high-ceilinged hall for assembly purposes. The authors heartily endorsed this approach for its flexibility:

> Such a hall is capable of being fitted up and answering for everything required in a country town, as a caucus meeting, a theatrical performance, for private parties and public balls, church fairs or even ministers' donation parties. This hall would be a source of revenue that would almost run the entire building, and would be a source of continual enjoyment for the citizens of the town.[26]

In Canada this formula, with variations in arrangement and scale, was often used for both country town halls and civic buildings in urban centres. A prominent roof tower, either for a bell, a clock or for drying hose (if the building included a fire station), or a combination of these, was one of the most common features that marked such 19th-century buildings. Although more accommodation for specialized services was provided in the urban municipal halls than in the rural open halls of the same period, they continued to be ceremonial gathering places.

Earliest Extant Examples

The multifunctional or combined-use building constitutes the largest number of extant pre-1930 town halls across the country. It is in Ontario, with its high number of increasingly urbanized and industrialized communities, where the bulk of them were built. Their forerunner was the large-scale Kingston City Hall. The impressive range of activities served by this hall represents practically every functional variation that might be found in any Canadian town or city hall before the 1870s.[27] Other large urban halls built in Ontario included the market and additional functions as a major aspect of their design.

The classically designed Kingston building also appears to have served as a stylistic model during the mid-19th century. Its precedent-setting effect was particularly noticeable in the designs of town and city halls built between 1845 and the 1860s. Three intermediate-sized town halls in Ontario that reflect this influence are those built in Port Hope between 1851 and 1852, in Dundas between 1848 and 1849 and in Perth between 1863 and 1864. The Perth building is the most impressive of the three (Fig. 24). All three are hip-roofed and have cupolas. Architect designed and built of locally quarried limestone and sandstone, the Perth Town Hall contained a lockup, a fire station, a band room, town offices and council chamber on the lower floor towards the front, with butchers' stalls situated in the rear and a public hall, which could hold a thousand people, in the upper storey.[28]

Typical of most pre-1870 town halls in the country, all three buildings included markets in their facilities. The importance of the market function in the Perth hall is emphasized by the fact that contemporary local editorial reports on its progress of construction refer to it only as the "Market Building" rather than the town hall. The conservative, solid, classical design of the buildings is also reminiscent of that of many English public administrative buildings of the period, with their broad fronts, central roof accents, masonry construction and classical details. The sense of restrained dignity is common to both types. The Perth design and others like it successfully achieve the sense of stability and confidence appropriate to the urban municipal function, but the style of building is far more blocky, classically conservative and less flamboyant than its later counterparts in the province.

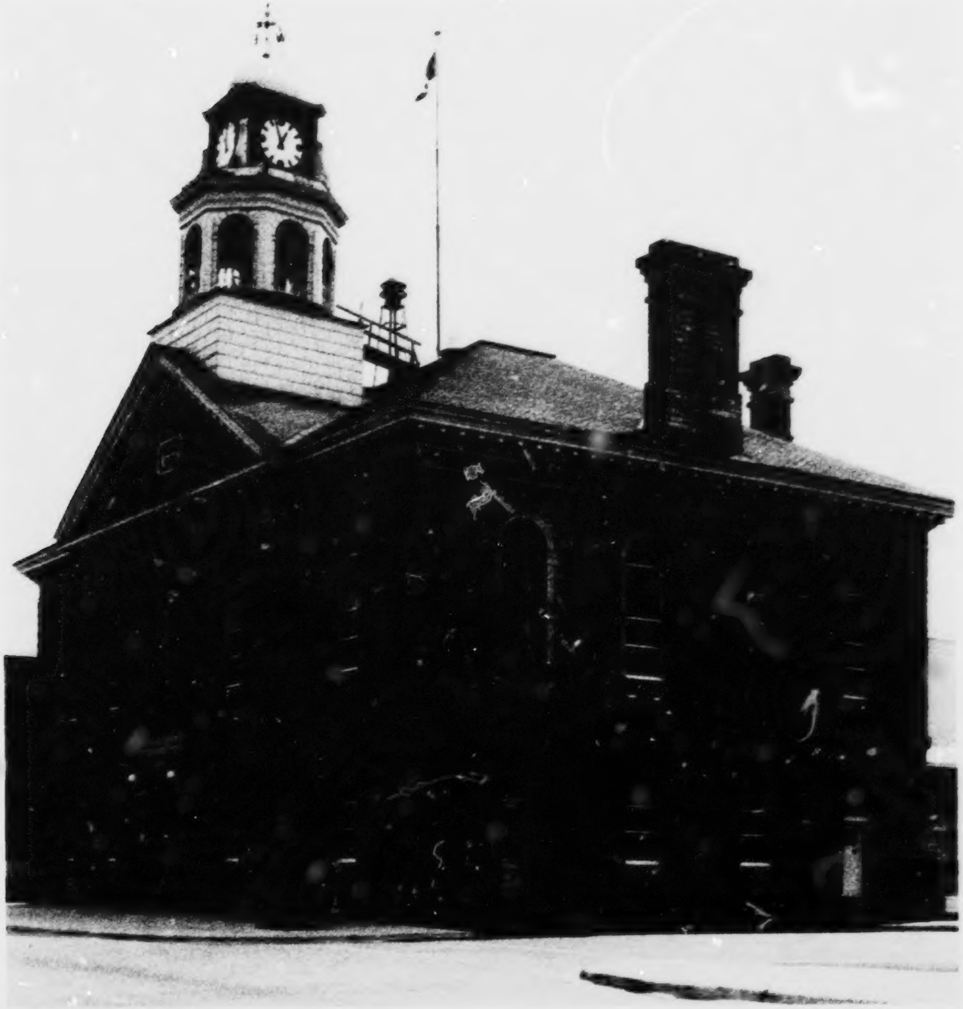


Figure 24. Perth Town Hall, Ont., built as a town hall and market between 1863 and 1864, also accommodated a public hall in the upper storey; a fire station, a lockup, a band room, town offices and council chamber situated in the front of the ground storey; and butchers' stalls in the rear. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

A more modest example of the combination market/town hall is the brick Napanee Town Hall (Fig. 25), built for a village population of only 750 people in 1856 and designed by a major Kingston architect. Much simpler than the Kingston hall, this structure is typical of the scale of town halls in smaller Ontario communities. Completely gutted in 1976, its interior arrangement originally included the town offices and vault situated towards the front of the ground storey, while the market was situated in the rear (Fig. 26).

Another Ontario example is the architect-designed Stamford Township Hall. Now a museum, the Stamford hall initially combined a fire hall and market in the basement, the township offices and council chamber on

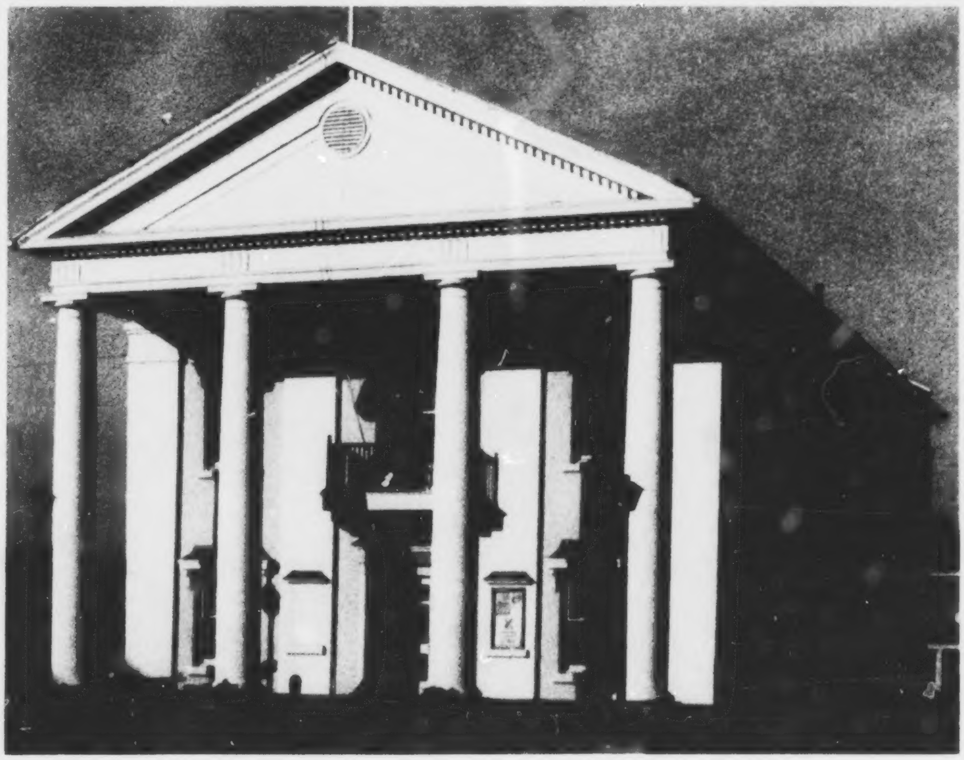


Figure 25. Erected as the Napanee Village Hall and Market House in 1856, this structure was built for a community of about 750 people for £1200. It is one of the simpler versions of the multifunctional type of town hall in Ontario. The portico was added in 1900. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada – Parks)

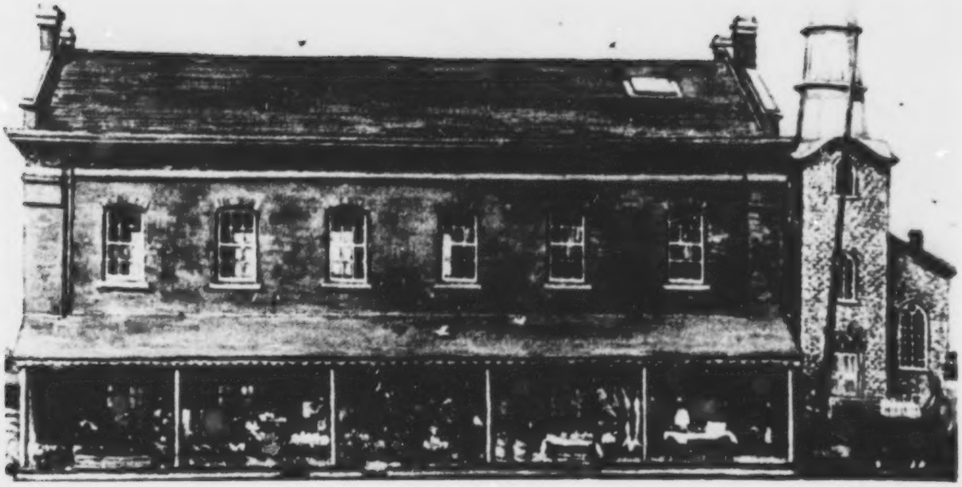


Figure 26. Napanee Town Hall and Market House, Ont., from a painting, ca. 1890. Sheds, since removed, extended along the sides of the building for a market in progress. Butchers' stalls were situated inside on the ground floor. (Lennox and Addington County Museum)

the first floor, and a public hall with balconies, also used by the Masons, in the upper storey.

Ontario Combined-Function Buildings,
Post-1870

Two of the smallest combined-use examples in Ontario are the Bobcaygeon Town Hall and the Port Perry Town Hall, erected in 1874 and 1873, respectively. The Bobcaygeon hall provided room for a town hall, a market, a fire station and a jail, while Port Perry's restored, two-storey building (Fig. 27) contained two cells and a council chamber in the lower storey, and a high-ceilinged hall and gallery on the second floor.

In their book, *Ontario Towns*, authors Ralph Greenhill, Ken Macpherson and Douglas Richardson described 19th-century Ontario town halls as "generally broad, two-storey structures with a centrepiece topped by a central clock tower. Colossal pilasters frequently linked the levels and clasped the corners, while a small pediment was a common central accent."[29]

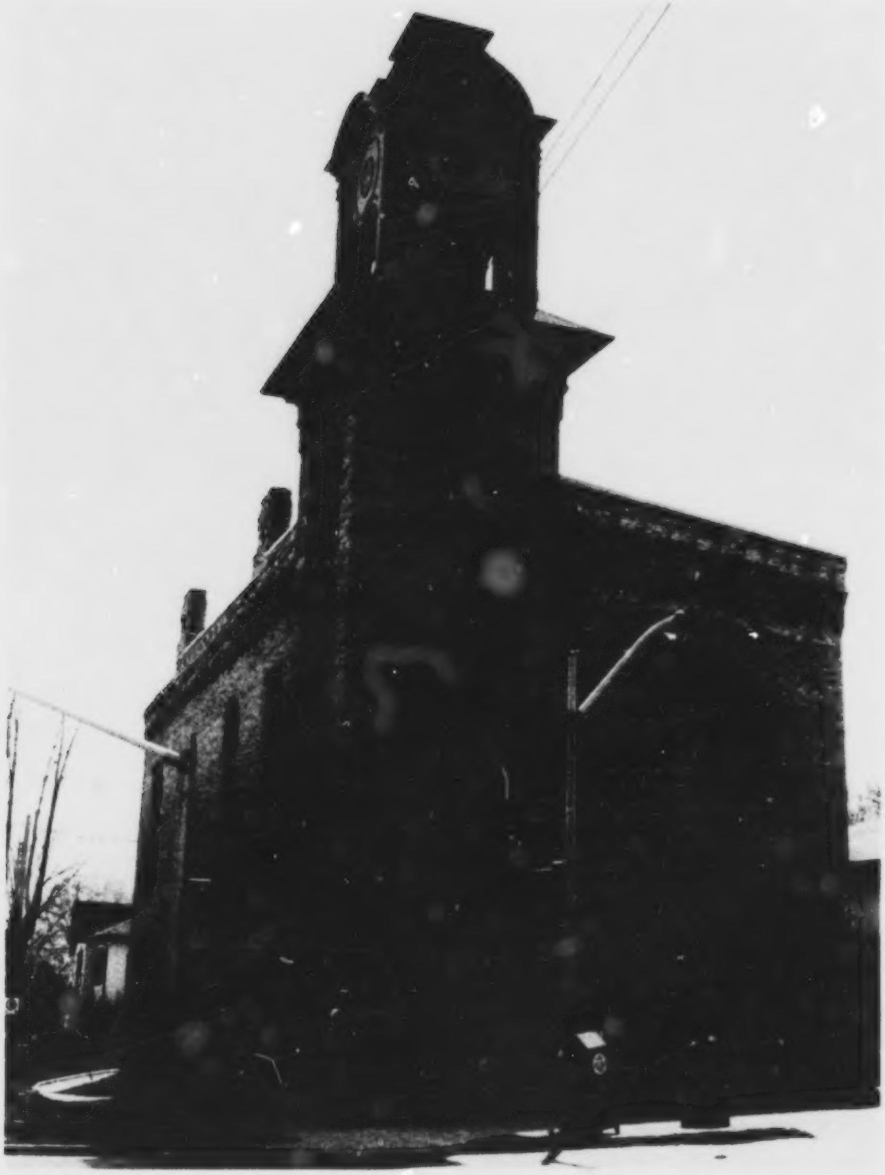


Figure 27. Port Perry Town Hall, Ont., built in 1873. This is a small, combined-function municipal hall, one of many such buildings erected in Ontario throughout the 19th century. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

This description aptly applies to many of the following examples. They include the two-storey town hall/market of Caledonia (now Haldimand) (Fig. 28), designed in the style of the Classical Revival; the Barrie City Hall, built in 1856 (renovated extensively); and the Woodstock Town Hall. Another classically designed, symmetrical town hall/market typical of the 1870s and 1880s in Ontario is the Aylmer Town Hall (Fig. 29). It was built of brick between 1873 and 1874 for a population of only 850. About 1895 the assembly hall in the upper storey was converted into a more formal "opera hall," that common feature of many of the Canadian urban halls towards the end of the 19th century.

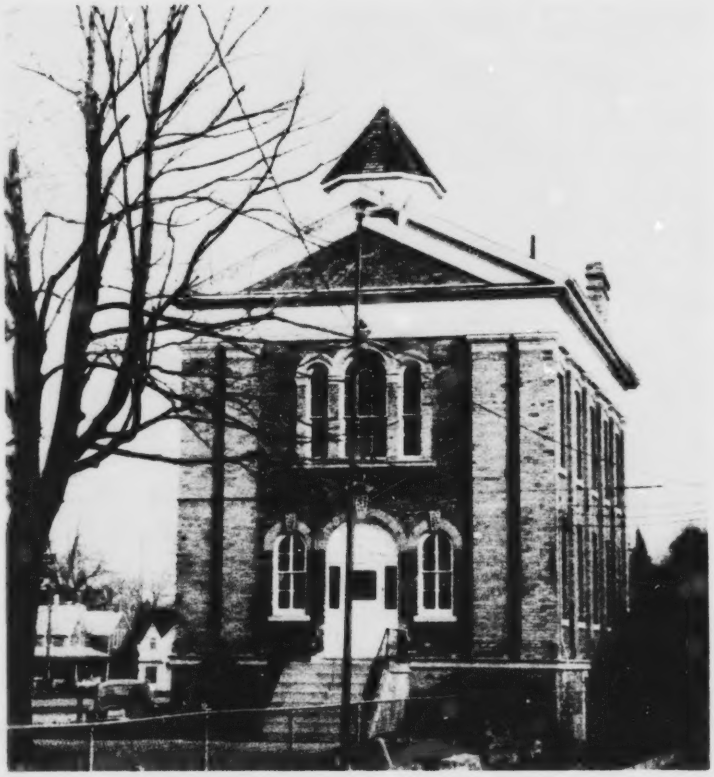


Figure 28. Former Caledonia Town Hall, Caledonia, Ont., built between 1857 and 1858. Town halls in Central Canada developed certain identifying characteristics, including their general form, cupolas, layout and textured wall surfaces. Compare this example with Figure 29. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

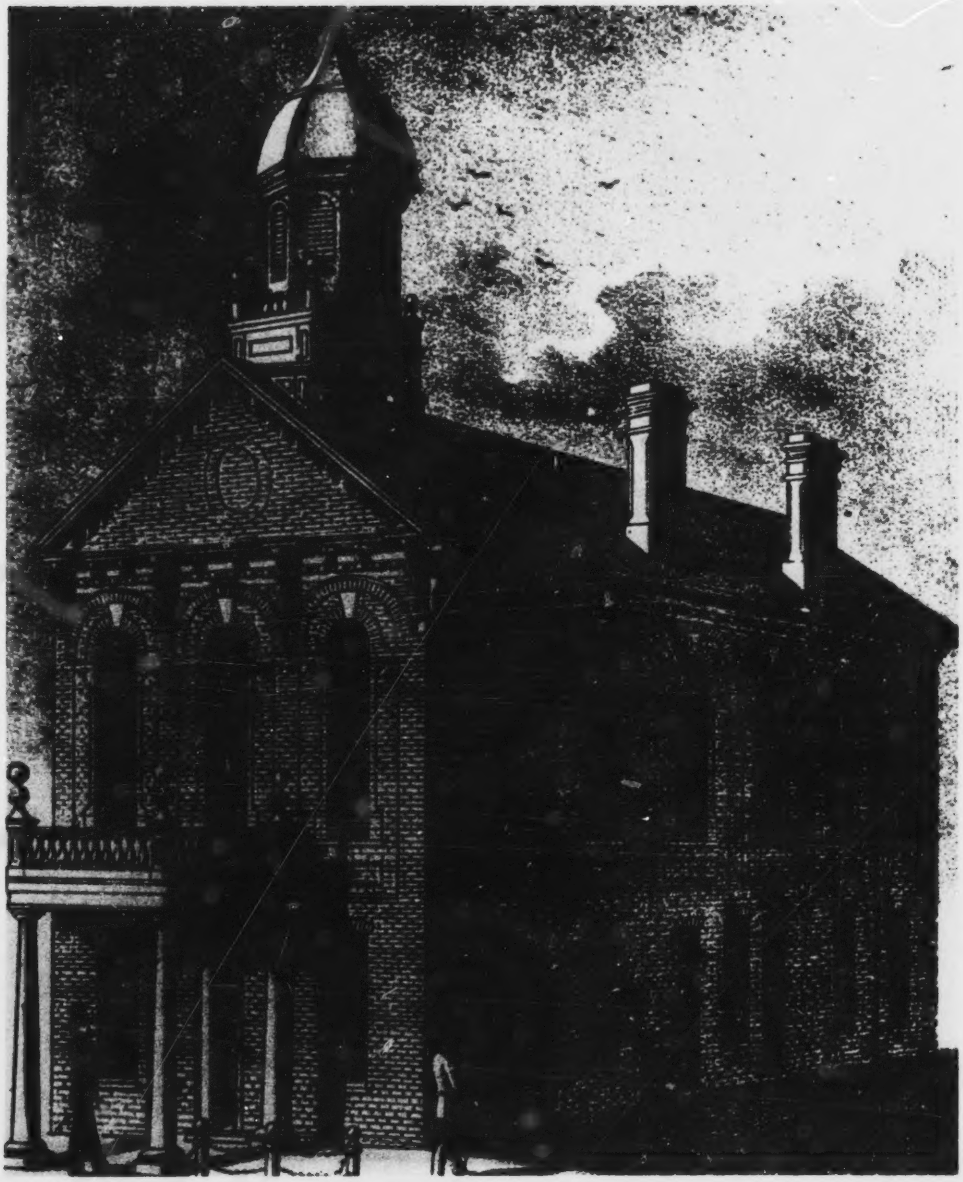


Figure 29. Former Aylmer Town Hall, Aylmer, Ont., built between 1873 and 1874. (Archives of Ontario)

Later 19th-century examples of the urban town or city hall in Ontario continued to be multifunctional. The designs of most of them, however, dispensed with the symmetrical classicism of their mid-century predecessors and reflected the influence of a variety of styles by then prevalent throughout the western world. One of the most impressive of these built in intermediate-sized towns is the town hall at St. Mary's (Fig. 30), erected in 1890-91[30] in the style of the Romanesque-eclectic.[31]

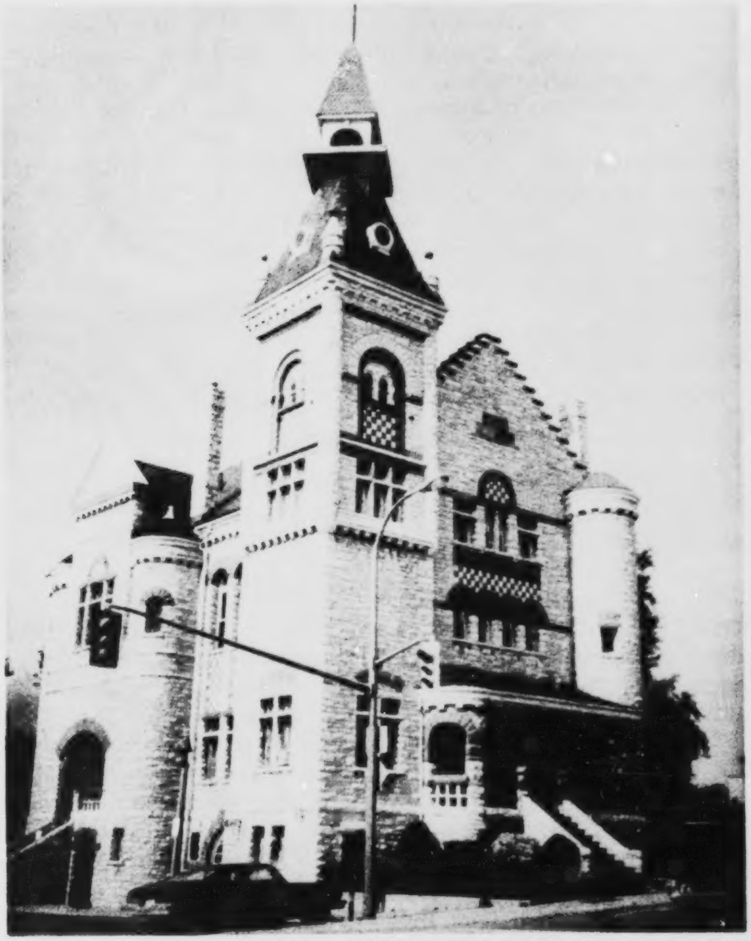


Figure 30. St. Mary's Town Hall, Ont., built between 1890 and 1891 for a town population of about 3500, is one of many multipurpose examples in the province, with an impressive public hall in the upper storey. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

Dramatic, irregular massing of roof features and textured wall surfaces distinguish the St. Mary's building from the more compact and restrained classicism of mid-19th-century halls. A combination of local limestone and sandstone in the walls creates a polychromatic effect, one of the trademarks of the High Victorian Gothic style popularized in England by architect William Butterfield and others. A round tower is located at the right side of the façade, and a square tower extends up the left corner and is crowned by a pyramidal roof, a feature derived from the old Italian fortress-halls. The impressive Almonte Town Hall is also similar to the St. Mary's building. Constructed of local limestone, the Almonte hall has two high towers and is a good example of the German Romanesque Revival. Collingwood's town hall/market, built in 1889 and designed by Toronto architect Henry Simpson, is another attractive Romanesque building of this genre.

Other variations on the typical Ontario town hall design of the late 19th century include the architect-designed Clinton Town Hall (Fig. 31) and the Orillia City Hall. Built in 1880, the Clinton building is a two-storey structure with a prominent mansard-roofed tower containing a bell provided by the local Church of England.[32] The design of the Orillia City Hall (Fig. 32) is unusual. The building was constructed between 1916 and 1917, following the design of its predecessor, which had been erected on the same site between 1894 and 1895 for a community of about 4750 people. Built as a town hall and market, this hall is now used as an opera house.

The Combined-Function Hall in Other Parts of Canada

Ontario was the most prolific province in the field of town and city hall construction in the 19th century. Among the Ontario buildings are some of the earliest town and city halls in the country. With such a head start, it is logical that some of the Ontario designs might have set the precedent for many other areas during the same period. The neighbouring province of Quebec, however, offers the most marked contrast. Here, the emphasis in the designs of most intermediate-sized town halls, even in the 19th century, was on the practical aspect of municipal government, not the ceremonial. Aside from a handful of municipal halls in Quebec's larger urban centres such as Montreal, the appearance of most town halls in the province is blocky, simple and even severe. An important difference between Quebec and Ontario is that most of the surviving Quebec urban halls were built in the latter part of the 19th century and even more were erected in the 20th century. Like those across the country, Quebec's 20th-century town halls, although large, began to represent contemporary theories of the association between form and function as well as the shift in municipal responsibilities.

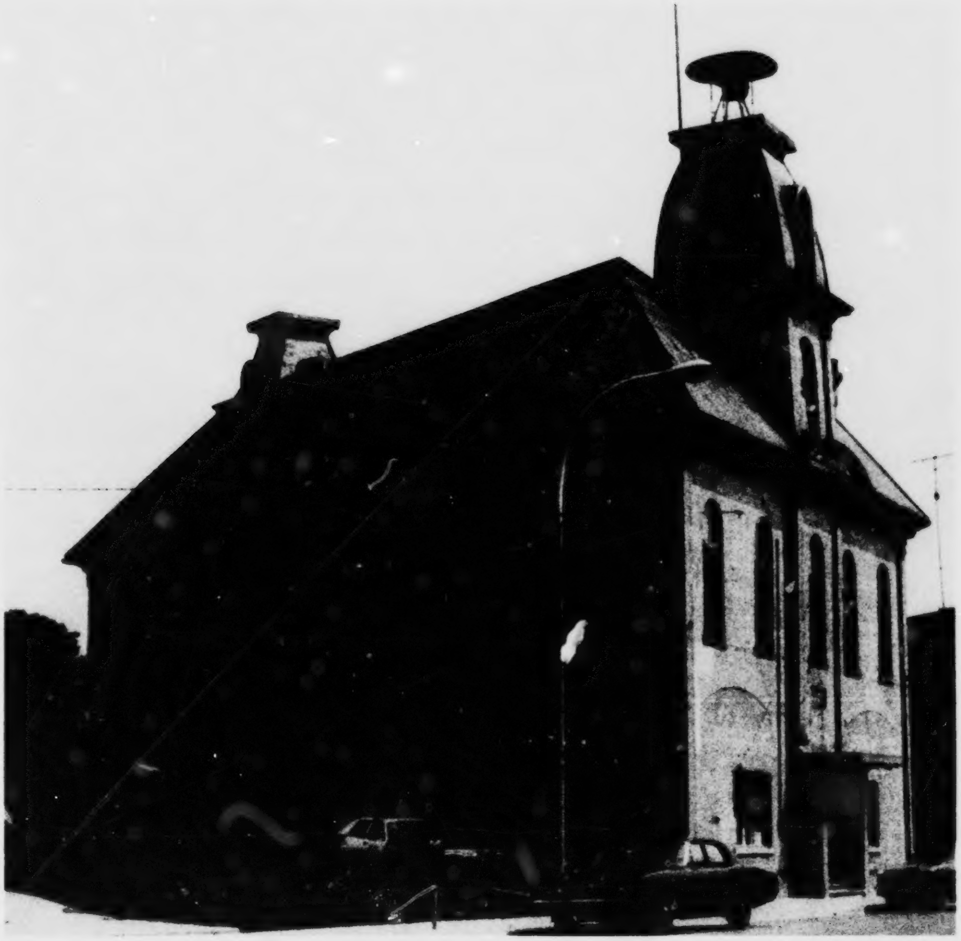


Figure 31. Clinton Town Hall, Ont., built in 1880. The first storey, 13 feet high, was fitted up for butchers' stalls, a lockup, an engine room, council room, exchange room and clerk's and grain dealers' offices. In contrast, the second storey, 18 feet high, contained a library and a public gallery which had a cove ceiling measuring 25 feet at its apex. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

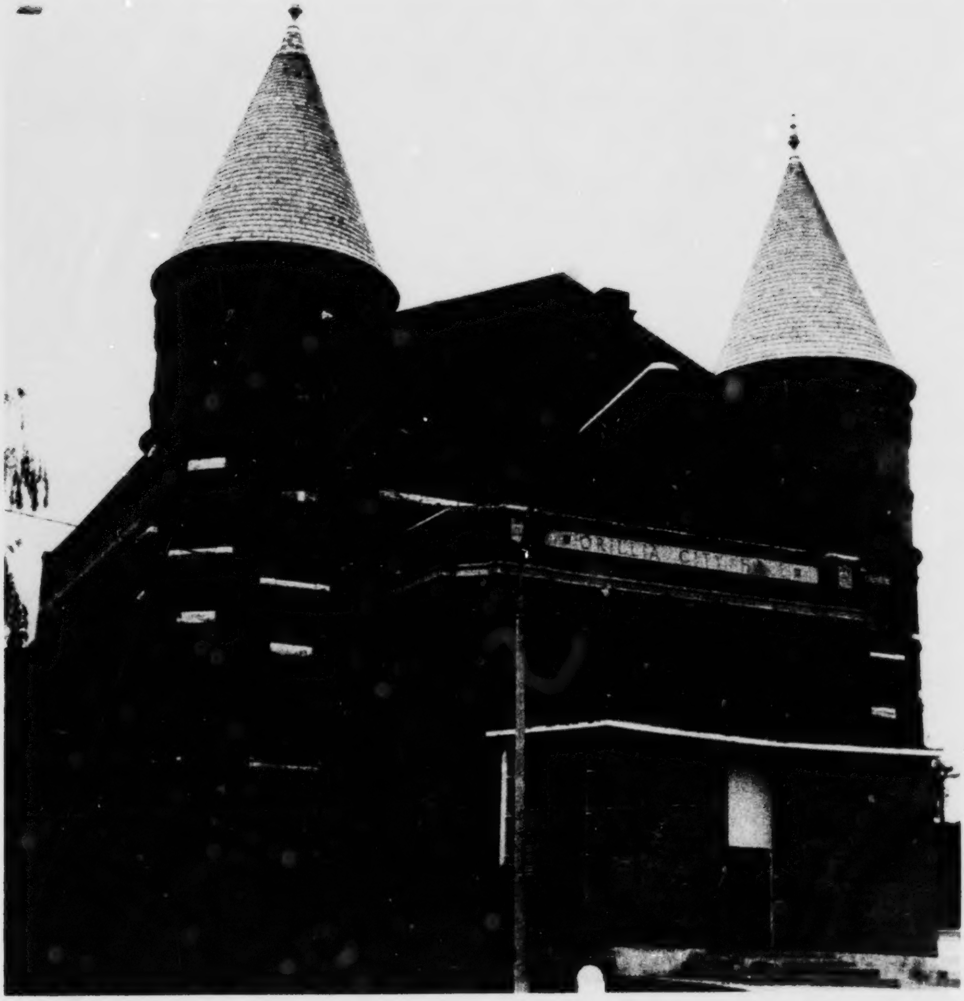


Figure 32. Orillia City Hall, Ont., built between 1916 and 1917, according to the plans of its predecessor built between 1894 and 1895. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

The town halls that follow are presented in chronological order according to province or area, based on when most of the extant examples were built. This framework results in the following sequence: Quebec, the Maritime provinces, British Columbia and finally, the Prairies.

A rare mid-century example of the bifunctional town hall in Quebec is the small Bolton-Est Town Hall, built of wood in about 1869 by a community bee. Architectural ornamentation includes conspicuous paired brackets along the eaves and pilasters at the corners of the structure as well as on either side of the main door and the window above it, which lights the upper floor. A simple, open town hall occupied the ground storey and a school was located on the second floor.

The Chambly Town Hall (Fig. 33) is a more elaborate building. It was built in 1912 according to plans prepared by a member of the council, with council's advice. A porticoed entrance and cupola are the building's distinguishing architectural features; they appear to have been "applied," not conceived as part of an integrated design. This may be attributable to the fact that the building was not professionally designed.

Figure 33. Chambly Town Hall, Que., built in 1912. It contained the town offices, police station, a post office and the community hall. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

The typical intermediate-sized town or city hall of the late 19th and early 20th centuries in Quebec was a plain, two-storey rectilinear building with a central tower. Most of them were designed by professional architects. One such building is the town hall of Farnham, constructed of brick in 1912. It consists of two storeys and has a conspicuous, tall central tower. The building housed the town offices, police department and fire hall, the typical late 19th-century combination. Like the Farnham building, the first Roberval Town Hall, built of stone in 1909, was distinguished from the other town buildings by its impressive tall clock tower. Later converted to a court house, this building was replaced by a similarly designed building in 1929 (Fig. 34). The present brick Roberval Town Hall (40 by 60 feet long) initially functioned as a theatre, a residence, a fire station and the town offices. Like some town halls of this period in Quebec, the Roberval building resembles a court house.

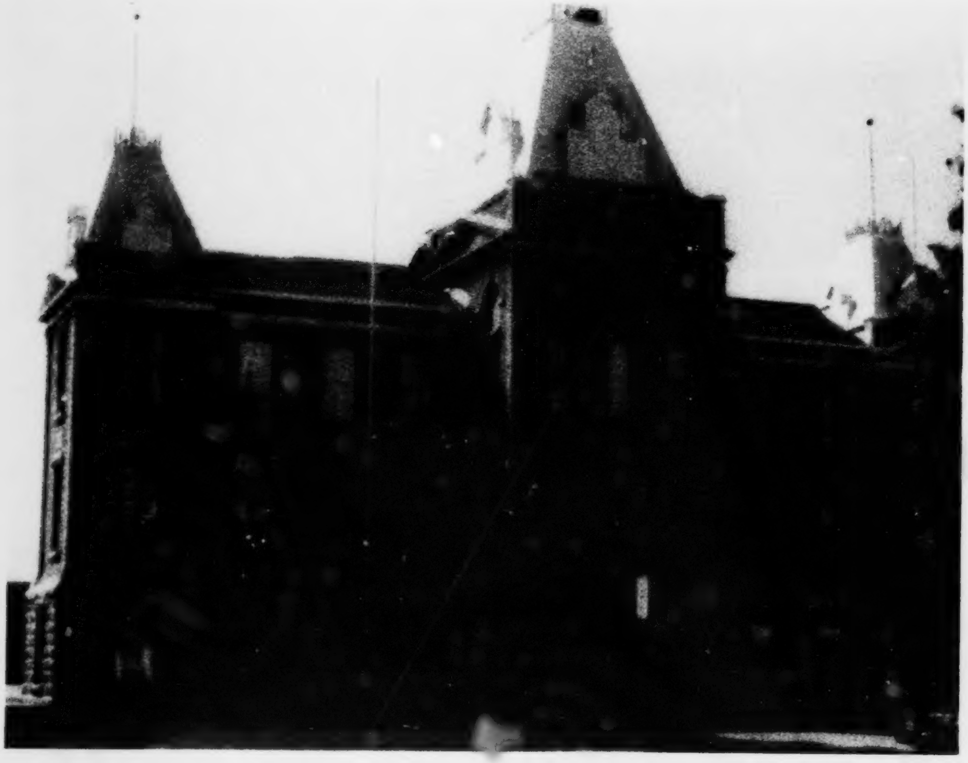


Figure 34. Roberval Town Hall, Que., built of brick in 1929. (Secretary-Treasurer/Clerk, Roberval)

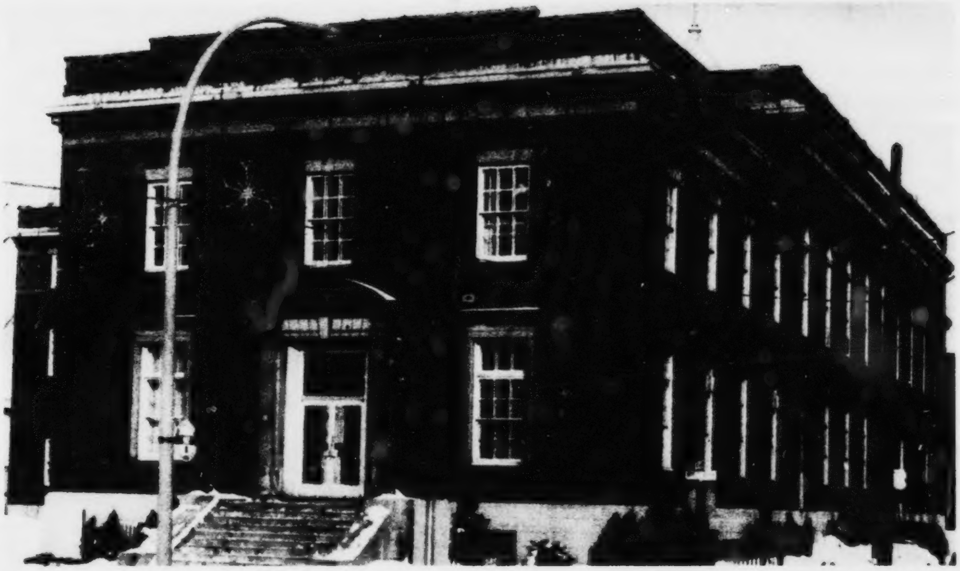


Figure 35. Lachine Town Hall, Que., built between 1914 and 1916. The blocky design is typical of many Quebec town halls. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

Combining functions within the town hall building continued to be popular in Quebec at the turn of the century. The Inverness Town Hall, built in 1890, included a court house and registry and county offices as well as the town offices. The Lachine Town Hall (Fig. 35) was built between 1914 and 1916 by architects Viau and Venne as a fire station, town hall and police offices. The professionally designed former Verdun Town Hall, a high school-like structure, was built in 1908 as a town hall, fire station and recreation centre. Until well into the 20th century fire halls continued to be included in many Quebec town halls. Examples include the town halls of Macamic, erected in 1927 and since demolished, and Maniwaki, built in 1931 to include prison cells, a residence, the town hall and fire station. The town halls of Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade and La Pérade, both extant, are other examples.

Many of the earlier Quebec town halls have been radically altered by modernization or have been replaced. This is also true of the town halls of the Maritimes, where very few intermediate-sized town halls have survived from this period. One in New Brunswick, demolished in about 1969 but worthy of mention, is the Chatham Town Hall (Fig. 36), built about 1898. The building is one of the few illustrations located of the sophisticated 19th-century multifunctional urban hall built in New Brunswick, aside from the Fredericton City Hall. Its design followed the Romanesque Revival mode which was popular in Ontario at the same time. Its large scale and elaborate design contrasted with the neighbouring structures and is attributable to its multiple functions, including the town hall, jail, fire hall, court house, caretaker's residence and others.

Most of the surviving town halls in Nova Scotia were built in the 20th century, but several examples of the earlier, 19th-century multifunctional type still exist. Two of these are the town halls of Lunenburg and Bridgewater, both built as part of court house complexes in the 1890s. Although the Bridgewater municipal offices have since moved, the Lunenberg Town Hall (Fig. 37) still shares space in the brick and sandstone Second Empire style Lunenburg County Court House, built between 1891 and 1892 by Halifax architect Henry Busch.[33]

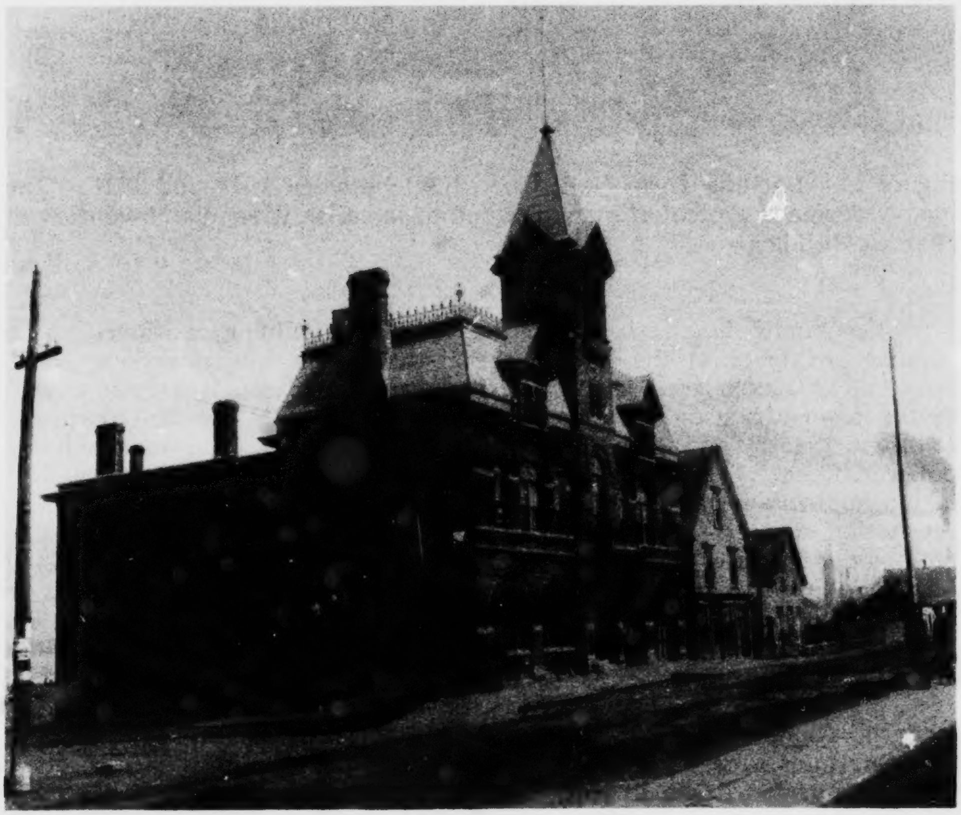


Figure 36. Former Chatham Town Hall, N.B., built around 1898 and demolished in 1969. (Provincial Archives of New Brunswick)

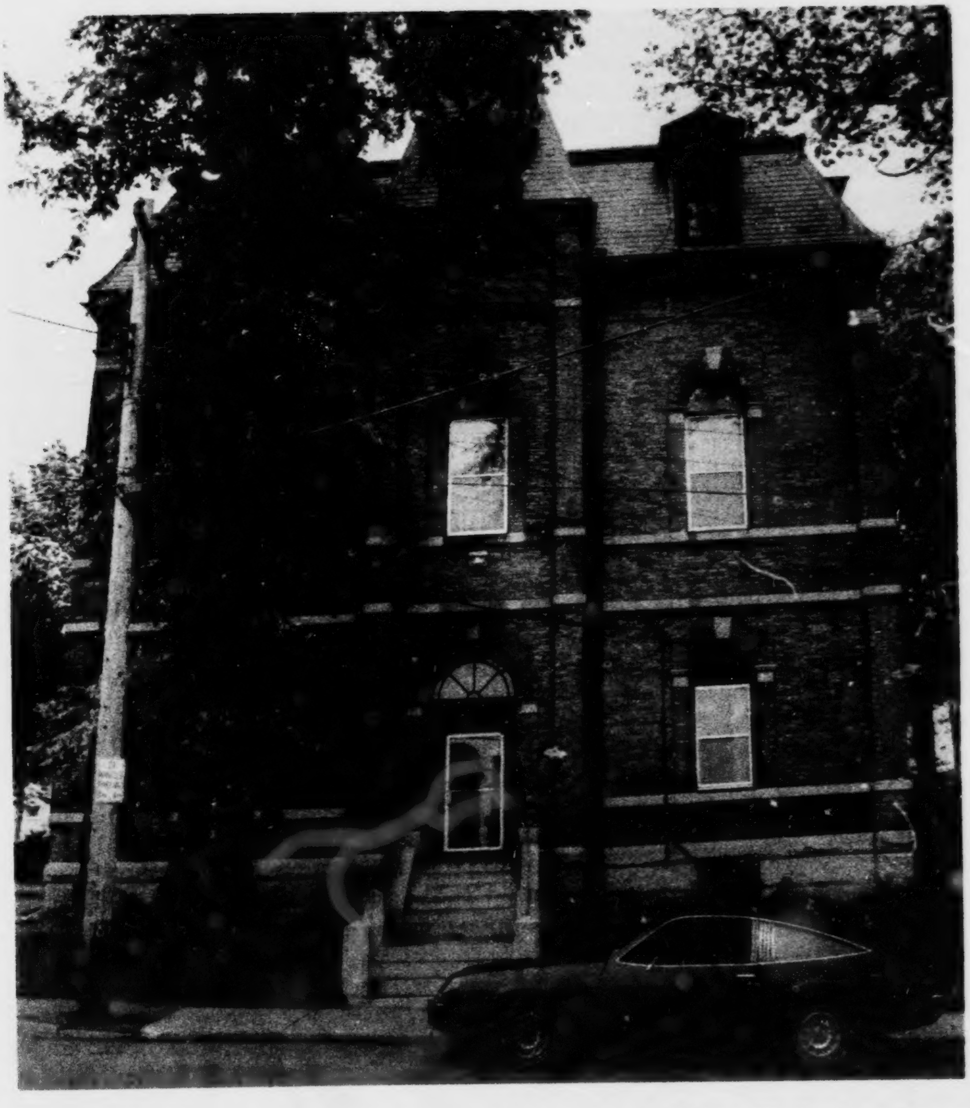


Figure 37. Lunenburg County Court House and Town Hall, Lunenburg, N.S., designed by Halifax architect Henry Busch and built between 1891 and 1892. (Knickles Studio and Gallery)

Interesting 20th century examples of the combined-function town hall in Nova Scotia are those at Liverpool and Annapolis Royal. Annapolis Royal's town hall was built in 1922 and housed the town offices, police station, the public works department, a fire station with hose tower and an apartment in the upper storey which at one time was the mayor's residence. The Liverpool Town Hall, built between 1901 and 1902, is a rare example of the intermediate-sized, multifunctional town hall of wood construction.

Perhaps the most interesting of these 20th-century combined-function halls in Nova Scotia is the classically designed Stellarton Town Hall (Fig. 38). It was built in 1930 and designed by prominent architect L.R. Fairn.[34] The council chamber in the upper storey (Fig. 39) is traditionally arranged with a barrier between the council section and the public area which has plain spectators' benches. Much of the original furniture and wood detailing has been retained. By combining several functions, the Stellarton hall achieved an architectural monumentality which might otherwise have been impossible. In its massing of functions, the Stellarton Town Hall is typical of the 19th-century urban hall in Canada, but its lack of a public hall makes it closer to the 20th-century town office building.

Like the Maritime provinces, British Columbia has few pre-1930 town halls of the combined-function type. The half-timbered style is perhaps British Columbia's most important contribution to the Canadian town hall scene; it appears to be unique to this province. Some examples in the province that do conform to the multifunctional category are those built in Enderby (1909-10), Port Moody (1913-14) and Trail (1928). The Enderby Municipal Hall (Fig. 40) is an example of the small mixed-function town hall once common to the interior. It was built of brick and originally contained the council chamber, town offices, a lockup and a fire hall with a tower. The Port Moody City Hall (Fig. 41), although altered inside, is a good example of the combined-function, half-timbered town halls peculiar to the lower mainland between 1910 and 1913. Others are found in Ladner, Surrey (Cloverdale) and Salmon Arm. The half-timbered style appears to have been an attempt to create a British image and was popular during this period for many upper-class houses in Vancouver and Victoria.

As in other parts of the country, many of the early town halls built in the Prairies have either been demolished or extensively renovated. About 45 multifunctional town halls still exist in the Prairie provinces. Most of them were built in the 20th century, but a large proportion have since undergone significant structural changes. The Neepawa Town Hall in Manitoba (Fig. 42) is the earliest surviving example of the intermediate-sized multifunctional town halls in the Prairies. A two-storey building with a traditional central tower, it was built as a court house with a town hall in 1884. One of the smallest multifunctional town halls in the area is the town hall of Deloraine, Manitoba, built in 1906 as a town hall and fire station (Fig. 43). The Deloraine hall is one of the few such buildings in which the administrative function is clearly subservient to its fire protection role. The fire hall occupied the entire first floor, while the village offices, council chamber and jail occupied the upper storey. The town hall of Zealandia, Saskatchewan, is a similar building.

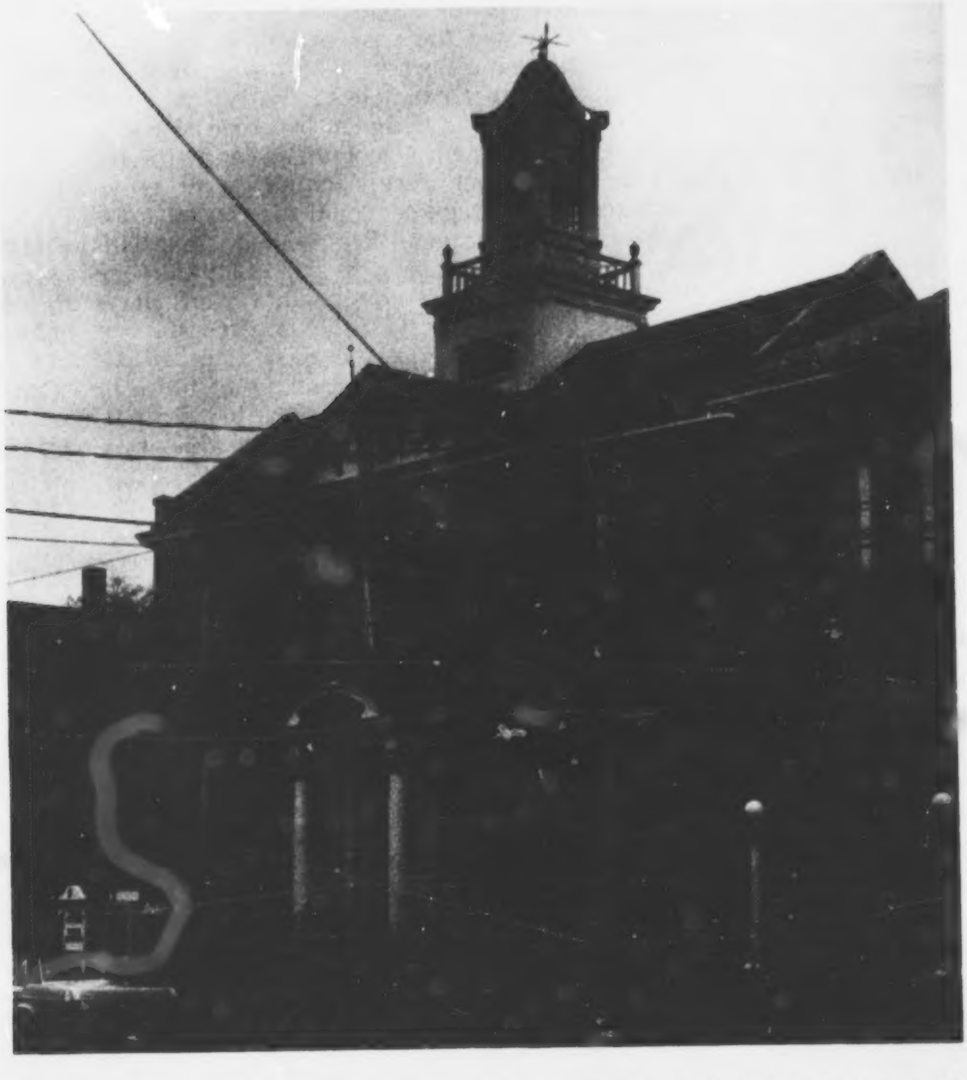


Figure 38. Town Hall, Stellarton, N.S., the Bank of Nova Scotia (*at right*) in 1979. Designed by well-known architect L.R. Fairn, this is one of the best surviving examples of the combined-function category in the Maritime region. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, C.A. Hale)

Other intermediate-sized, multifunctional Prairie town halls are those of Lloydminster (Fig. 44), Rosthern, and Craik (Fig. 45), erected in Saskatchewan in 1927, 1907 and 1913, respectively. The two-storey red brick Craik Town Hall resembles contemporary post offices of similar scale. The building's high corner tower distinguished it as the chief civic edifice in the community. It housed the post office, fire hall, jail cells (now the library), an auditorium and a library. The town hall of Moosomin, Saskatchewan, built in 1905, is another example of the typical Prairie town hall of the early 20th century. It was designed by professional architect Frank Evans of Winnipeg and contained a post office and fire hall. The clerk's office and the council chamber were situated on the ground floor, while a 500-seat opera house with a stage occupied the second storey.[35]

A large percentage of multifunctional Prairie municipal halls of less than monumental scale date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Subsequent to the onset of economic depression in various parts of the region and the outbreak of World War I, the construction of public buildings in Prairie municipalities practically ceased after 1913 (see the next essay: *"With Our Tax Money": The Thorny Problem of Town Hall Construction* by Marc de Caraffe). Large-scale construction did not resume until 1926; the existing Lloydminster Town Hall, built in 1927, was part of this later building boom.

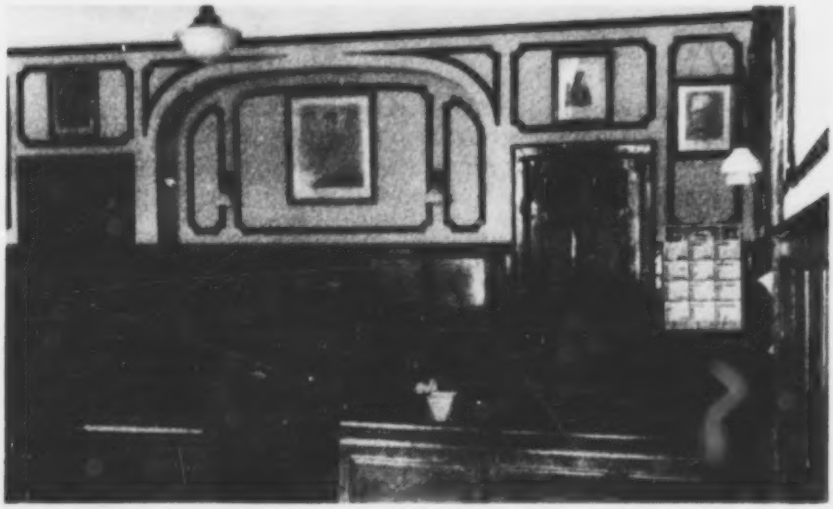


Figure 39. Town Hall, Stellarton, N.S. This view of the council chamber shows the mayor's podium at rear, the councillors' desks at right, a table for the town clerk and his deputy in front of the mayor, and the barrier separating the council from the public spectators' section. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, C.A. Hale)

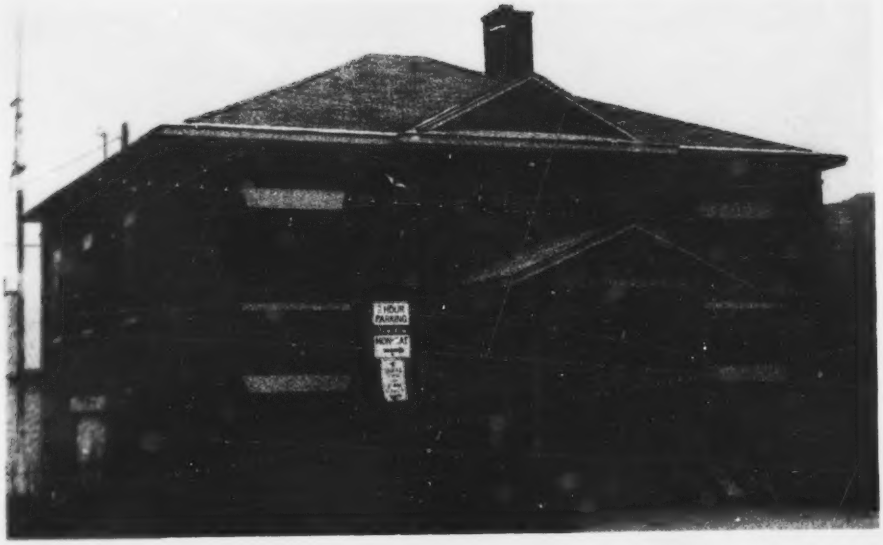


Figure 40. Enderby Municipal Hall, B.C., built between 1909 and 1910. Located in the Okanagan area, it is the best example of the small combined-function town hall in the province. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, G.E. Mills)

Figure 41. Port Moody City Hall, B.C., built between 1913 and 1914 and designed by Vancouver architect Joseph H. Bowman. This combined-function example originally accommodated municipal offices, a fire hall, a lockup and police offices. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

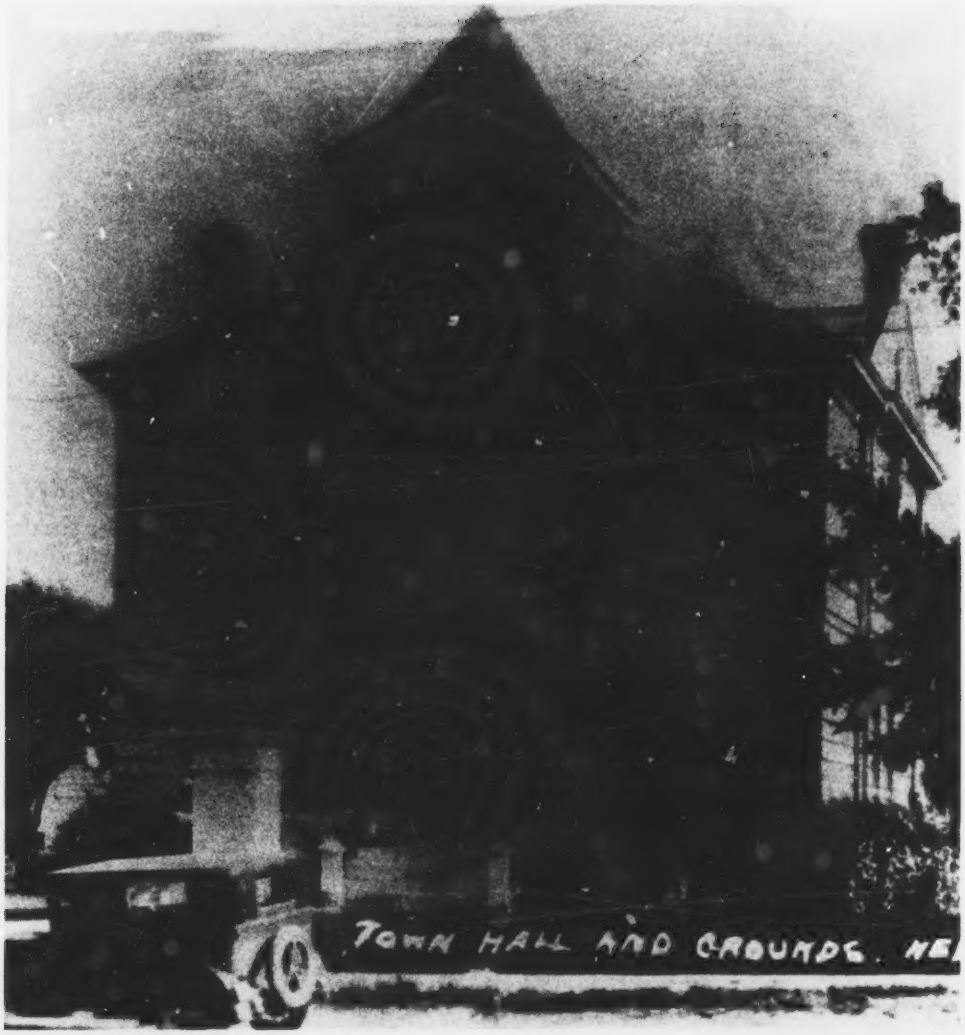

TOWN HALL AND GROUNDS. NE

Figure 42. Neepawa Town Hall, Man., built in 1884 as a court house, fire station and town hall. Note the second-storey balcony, suitable for delivering speeches. (Provincial Archives of Manitoba)

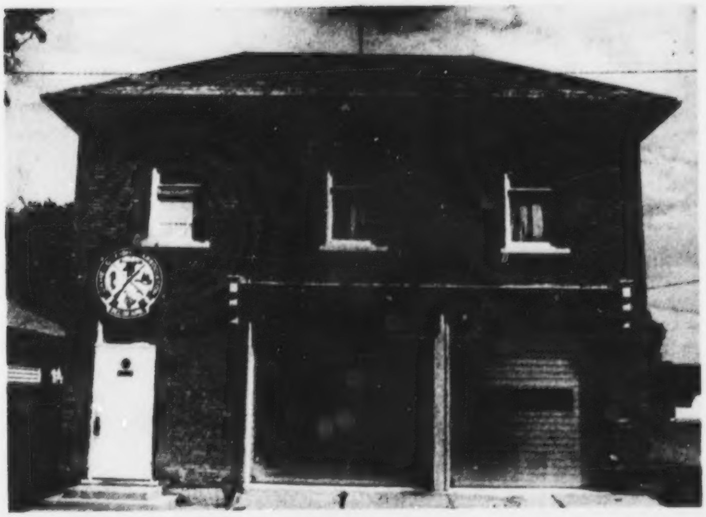


Figure 43. Deloraine Town Offices, Man., built in 1906. A two-storey brick hall, this building housed both the fire station and the town hall. It is one of the few combined-function town halls extant in the Prairies. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

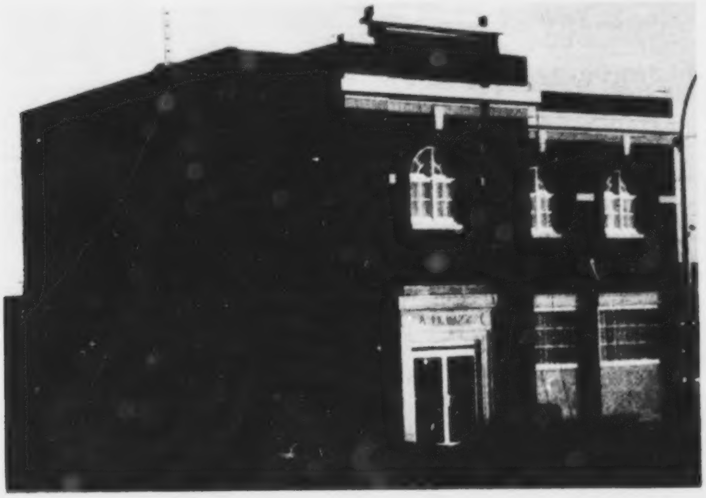


Figure 44. Lloydminster Town Hall, Sask., built in 1927 as a combined-function town hall. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, R.R. Rostecki)

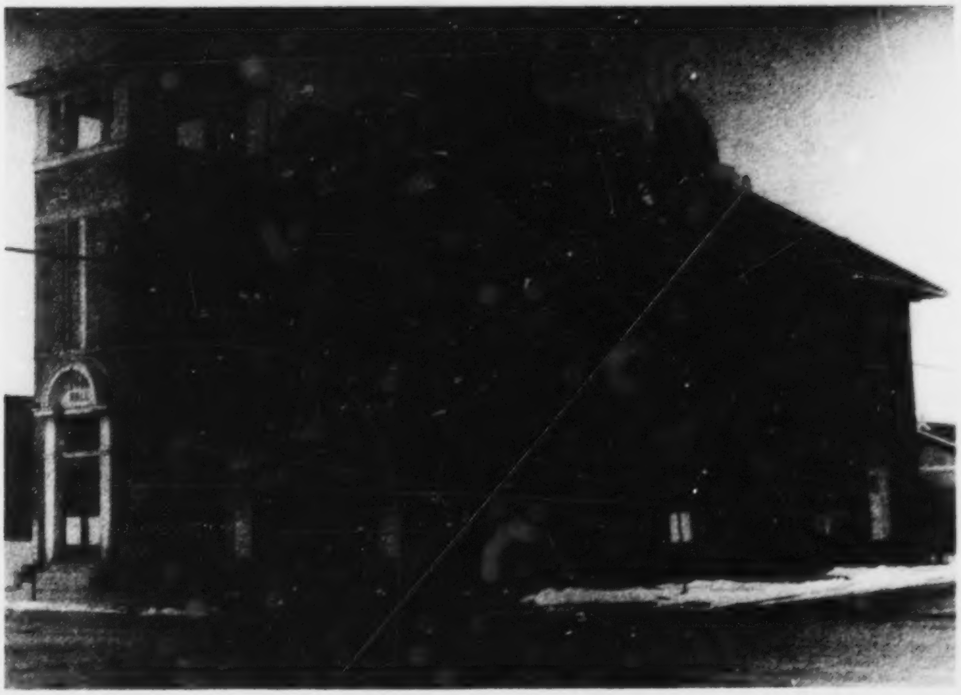


Figure 45. Craik Town Hall, Sask., built in 1913 as a town hall, post office, fire hall and lockup. It has a public auditorium in the upper storey. (*Craik Weekly News*, 22 Dec. 1955, p. 3)

TRANSITION

The multifunctional building continued to be erected in towns across the country in the early 20th century but its popularity was beginning to wane. The form is more characteristic of the 19th-century period of civic boosterism and initial experiments with municipal government. Most towns and even villages and smaller centres that built municipal offices in the 20th century emphasized the business aspect of their town halls. These "business" buildings exhibit little of the height and intricate architectural detailing of their 19th-century predecessors. Instead, they are frequently plainly built of brick, steel and/or concrete, in the rectilinear format. Although sometimes built on a larger scale, their general design is similar to that of other public and commercial buildings of the period.

Before and after World War I, increased specialization and the movement towards greater bureaucratic efficiency led to the separation of all non-administrative functions, such as fire and police protection, from the municipal building and their accommodation in detached specialized buildings. Even though many town halls built after 1920 continued to include police facilities and even fire departments, most of them ceased to accommodate regular community gatherings because of the problem of traffic flow. Although the presence of an opera hall on the upper floor added a sense of monumentality to the design and could provide additional revenue, it came to be regarded as more efficient to confine the administrative offices of the municipality to a building devoted solely to that purpose. Few Quebec buildings, for example, included both opera houses and municipal offices under one roof. By 1920, a multitude of other buildings both public and private were available for auditorium and reception purposes, and the former concert hall space was required to house an increasing number of municipal executive offices.

THE TOWN HALL AS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The professionalization of municipal services is the key to changes in the design of Canadian town and city halls erected in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The establishment of specialized departments to supervise municipal services, with full-time employees, necessitated a practical approach to their expanding accommodation requirements.[36] One of the most impressive examples of the administrative town hall below the metropolitan level is the Westmount City Hall in Quebec (Fig. 46). The municipal offices of Westmount are located in an impressive stone, two-storey town hall, built in 1922 and designed by architects Robert and F.R. Findlay. It was designed in the Scottish Baronial style with a prominent crenellated central clock tower. The town hall of Rivière-du-Loup (50 by 110 feet) (Fig. 47), built in 1916, is another good example of this type in Quebec. Designed by Georges Ouimet its style is similar to some of the province's court houses, like the multifunctional town hall of Farnham. Other single-function, administrative intermediate-sized town halls in Quebec include the town halls of Scotstown, built in 1924, and Longueuil, erected in 1908.

Two examples of this type of intermediate-sized administrative town halls in British Columbia are those at Chilliwack (Fig. 48) and Kaslo (Fig. 49). Erected in 1898, the Kaslo hall is the earliest documented instance of a primarily administrative town hall in the province, apart from the metropolitan example of Victoria. The Chilliwack City Hall was built between 1910 and 1912. It was constructed of reinforced concrete and consists of two storeys. Its ground floor housed offices for the mayor, city clerk, police magistrate, jail cells, a guard room, vault and boiler room.

The upper storey contained a central hall with a large courtroom connected to the judge's office, and offices including the city treasurer's at the front.

Ontario has a large number of these administrative halls, but most of those that were built mainly to house the administrative function are visually eclipsed by that province's 19th-century multifunctional town and city halls. Some Ontario examples are the town halls of Port Stanley (1927), West Lorne (1927) and Strathroy (1928). Others include Omemee, built in 1911; Lucknow, erected ca. 1873; Dutton, built between 1896 and 1897; Capreol, built in 1929; Cambridge, erected ca. 1920; and Kirkland Lake, built in 1928. While all of these halls provide more elaborate administrative space than earlier examples, most of them do incorporate other functions. Port Stanley, for example, has offices on the first floor with a hall on the second floor, the West Lorne Town Hall has meeting halls in the basement and on the second floor, and the Strathroy building is a town hall/fire hall with a second floor meeting hall (since converted to offices). The Omemee hall contains a community hall, library and offices; the Cambridge Town Hall includes offices, a hall and a fire station; and the town hall of Dutton functions as a town hall, a fire hall and police office with a meeting hall on the second floor.

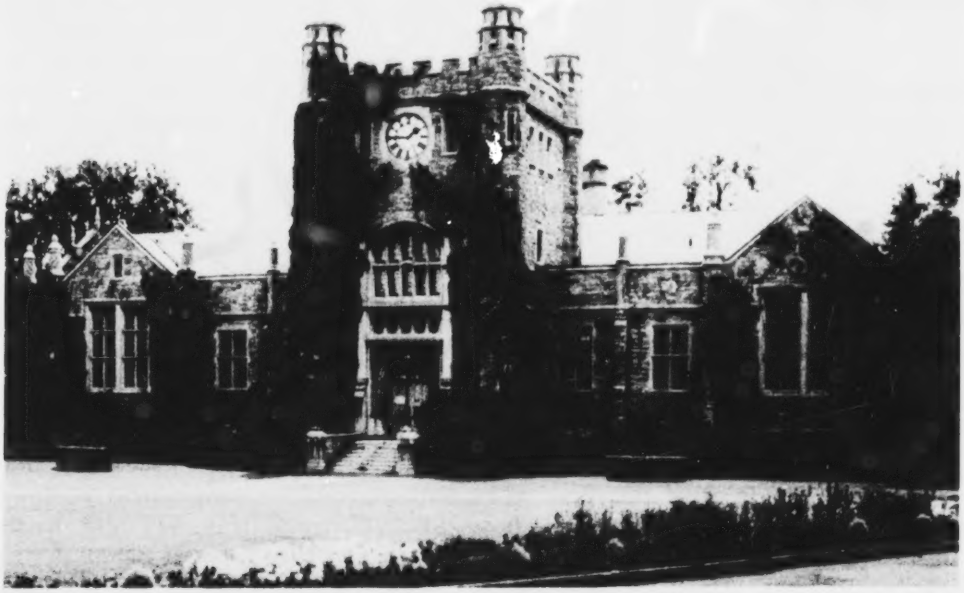


Figure 46. Westmount City Hall, Que., built in 1922 according to plans prepared by architects Robert and F.R. Findlay. (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada – Parks)

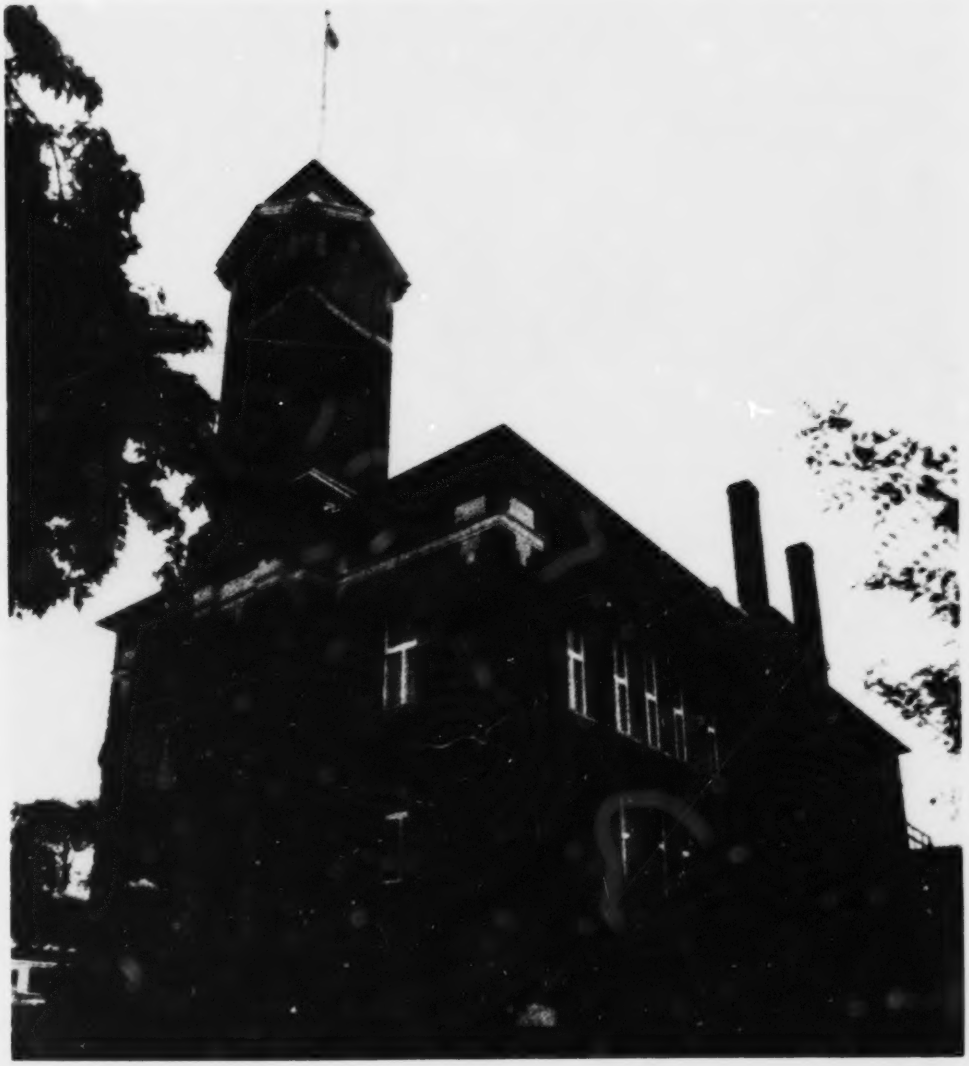


Figure 47. Rivière-du-Loup Town Hall, built in 1916 and designed by architect Georges Ouimet. This administrative type of town hall was designed in a style resembling several contemporary court houses in the province. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

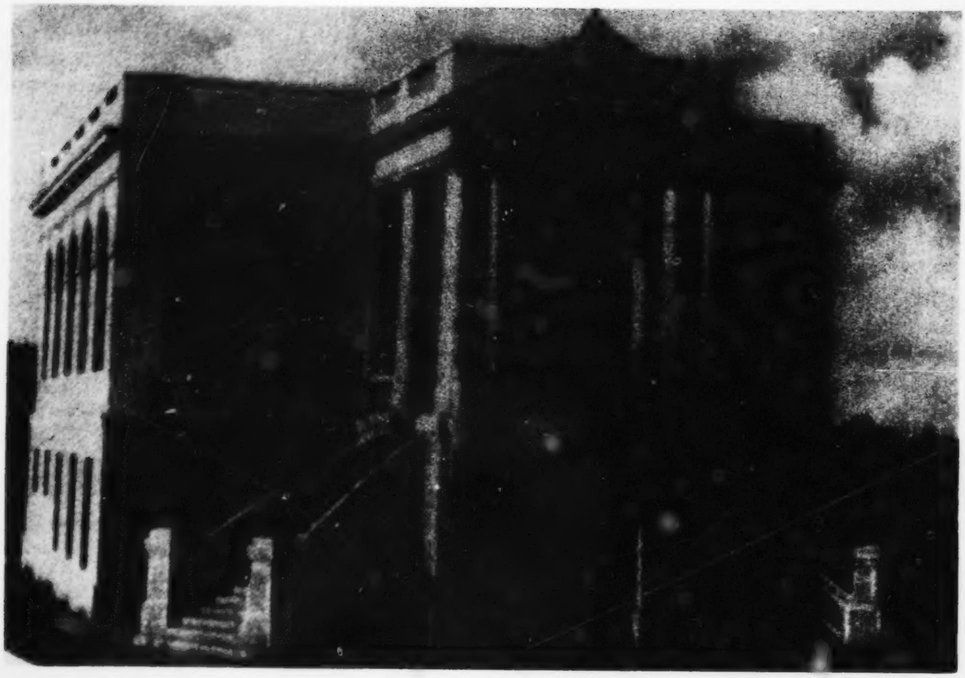


Figure 48. City Hall, Chilliwack, B.C., built between 1910 and 1912. This is the only extant city hall in the province built in the classical style. (Provincial Archives of British Columbia)

In the Prairies, the selection of appropriate examples of the intermediate-sized administrative type is hampered by the buildings' high rate of demolition and renovation. The Arcola Town Hall in Saskatchewan, however, is such a building and was erected in 1905. The town's subsequent lack of expansion precluded the need to replace the old town hall. Many Prairie halls in use today were built after 1930.

The same is true of the Maritime provinces. Only a small number of the intermediate-sized administrative town halls were built before 1930. Two major examples in this region are located in industrial Cape Breton: the small town halls of New Waterford, built in 1905 and now altered; and Sydney Mines Town Hall (Fig. 50), constructed of concrete bricks in 1905 to accommodate the town and police offices. Although the interior of the Sydney Mines hall has been altered, the council chamber (Fig. 51) has some interesting original detail.

The transition from the multipurpose town or city hall of the 19th century to the town hall office complex of the 20th was a natural one. It paralleled a shift in the concept of municipal government and its functions.

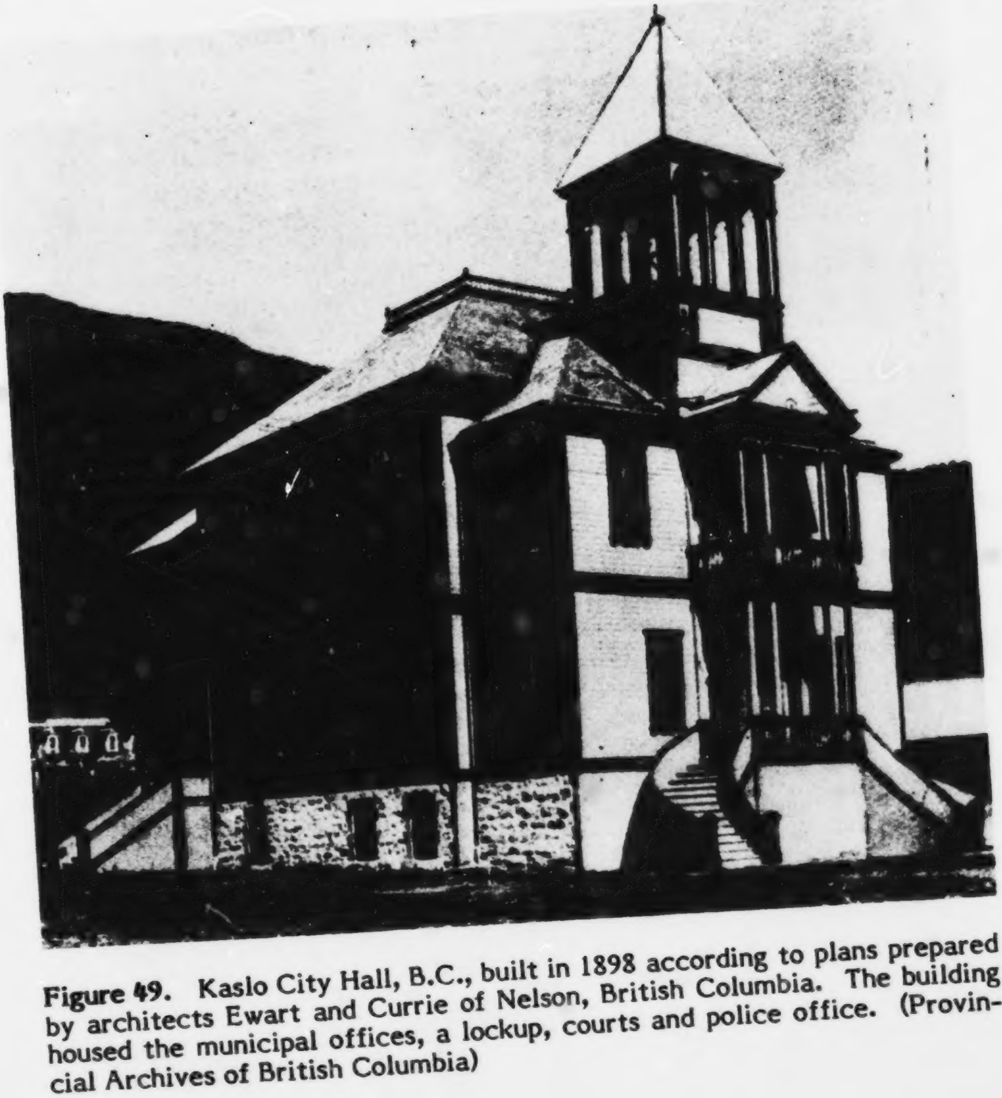


Figure 49. Kaslo City Hall, B.C., built in 1898 according to plans prepared by architects Ewart and Currie of Nelson, British Columbia. The building housed the municipal offices, a lockup, courts and police office. (Provincial Archives of British Columbia)

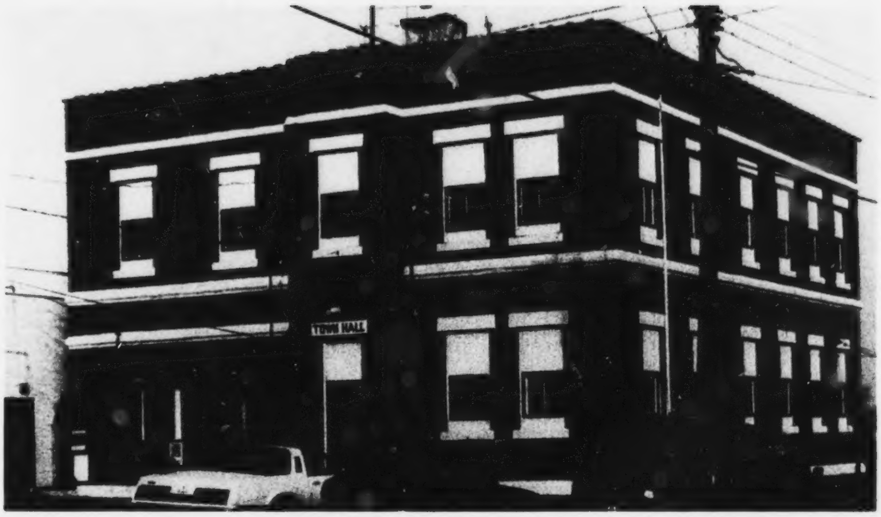


Figure 50. Town Hall, Sydney Mines, N.S., built in 1905; one of the few strictly administrative town halls in the Maritime region, as it appeared in 1979. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

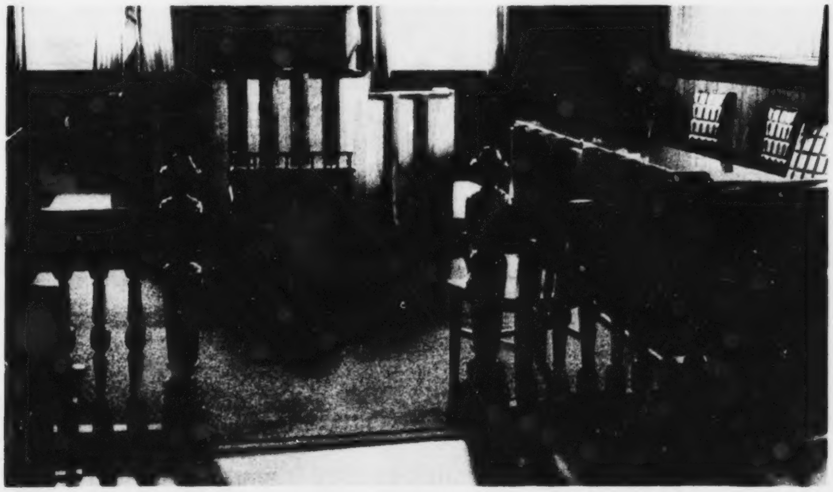


Figure 51. Town Hall, Sydney Mines, N.S., built in 1905; interior of council chambers in 1979. One of the original councillor's benches is in front of the mayor's podium. The substantial wooden railing separates the public and council sections, a typical feature of many Canadian town halls. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, John Schmid)

As municipal responsibilities became increasingly complex and complicated, so did the interior design of the halls that housed them. The turning point was the early 20th century. Dramatic new concepts of architectural design aided by new construction materials and techniques were applied to many of the new organizational problems faced by incorporated Canadian communities towards the end of the 19th century.

CONCLUSION

Town hall design in small and intermediate-sized communities in Canada before 1930 ranges from the earliest, simple rural genre to the more complex, specialized office building of the 20th century. Simply designed open-hall buildings, constructed of wood in the earliest instances, and more commonly of local stone or brick, appear in mid-19th-century Ontario in profusion. They are particularly interesting as a phenomenon of the North American frontier and as such, they are becoming rare. Open-room halls continued to be built in rural communities right into the 20th century. Their exterior design is similar to that of many other business and public or even private buildings of the time. They were locally inspired, locally built, of local materials, and seldom designed by professional architects. Minor changes to the design of the rural hall are common, such as the partitioning of the interiors to supply office space which had formerly been provided in private homes.

Ontario has the earliest surviving examples of the town hall in this country. Quebec has a handful of open-room, stone or brick township halls, most of which were built to serve rural areas of English origin. A scattering of the open-hall buildings were built in British Columbia and the Maritime provinces during the last quarter of the 19th century. While most of these have been demolished or dramatically renovated, some examples have survived.

Although some open halls were built in the Prairies, most of these have been replaced by municipal office buildings. By the late 1920s, close to the cut-off date for this study, most rural communities in the Prairies were building their halls according to the distinctly administrative or office-oriented concept.

Most rural Canadian communities had recognized the need for a different type of municipal hall by the early 1900s; as the concept of municipal government evolved to provide more and more services to growing populations, the simple rural open hall became obsolete. It was gradually replaced by the small municipal office building in which an expanded administration could function more effectively. Although the office complex was widely recognized as the most efficient accommodation for municipal services by the turn of the century, many ratepayers were reluctant to support it. Consequently, the typical 19th-century open hall continued to be used for as many as 60 years after its obsolescence was admitted editorially.

In small or intermediate-sized Canadian urban communities, the multifunctional town or city hall was most popular throughout the 19th century. Again, Ontario has the largest number of surviving examples of this major category of town hall. Many mid-19th-century examples in Ontario resemble the classical, administrative type of building and almost invariably included a market. The scope of design gradually expanded to include international trends, particularly those made popular in the United States, Britain and France. The architectural profession in Canada at this time was growing in numbers, of both Canadian and foreign origin. It is in urbanized and industrial Ontario where the greatest flowering of the 19th-century town hall occurred. By the last quarter of the century, the other provinces had just begun building urban halls in significant numbers, and it does not appear that many reached the levels of grandeur and imagination exhibited in Ontario on such a large scale and in such a multitude of forms. Typical late 19th-century town halls included police stations, fire stations and even post offices and court houses.

The turn of the century began to witness the demise of the town or city hall as the architectural monument and social centre of the community and its reinterpretation as an efficient modern office complex, with the greater proportion of its area devoted to this administration. By the 1950s, this trend was especially apparent in this country.

Both the open rural hall and the combined-function town hall represent architectural and administrative concepts that were peculiar to 19th-century conditions. In the last half of the 19th-century Canadians first began to accept responsibility for local self-government in the form of municipal incorporation on a large scale. Within the pre-1930 period studied, the 19th-century forms of town halls evolved into a new administrative building which could accommodate dramatically expanded municipal responsibilities common to all levels of local government.

ENDNOTES

1 Zurich, Ontario. Township of Hay, Minutes of Council, 16 April 1890; Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Huron (1879; reprinted Owen Sound: Richardson, Bond and Wright, 1972), p. 94.

2 Because the availability of historical records varies considerably across the country, and since most of these buildings have been renovated and adapted over the years, quantifications of this nature are necessarily approximate.

3 The Scott hall measures about 35 by 40 feet long and is 35 feet high

(although the interior ceiling is only 15 feet high). The Watford Township Hall, situated in the extreme southwestern part of Ontario, was also constructed in the board and batten manner. It was built in 1874 and included a jail in the basement. The building has a symmetrically detailed gable-end facade and its main floor follows the open-hall form. Abandoned in 1940, it is now dilapidated.

4 The former Richmond Village Hall is now a dining/exhibition hall for a local agricultural society.

5 The interior of the Beverly Township Hall has been extensively altered.

6 The interior of the Cornwall Township Hall initially consisted of a large high-ceilinged hall. This was divided in half about 1967, and the hall now accommodates additional municipal offices and a council chamber. The exterior has also been altered. Wood stoves provided the only source of heat until the 1960s when they were removed.

7 Similar Ontario township halls with side entrances include the Augusta Township Hall in Glenmore and the Kitley Township Hall in Toledo. The former was built of locally quarried stone in 1858 by a member of the council and a farmer/builder. The Kitley hall is a two-storey building constructed of locally quarried limestone in 1856.

8 Approximately 30 by 45 feet long and consisting of one storey, the interior of the Kenyon Township Hall originally contained one large hall with a high ceiling. Following damage by fire, the structure was rebuilt in 1895, and major alterations were made to the interior in 1966. Original specifications for the building indicate that a raised platform enclosed by a railing extended along the width of the structure, and that seats along each wall were provided for the public. The plastered walls were decorated with a four-foot-high pine wainscotting with an imitation white oak finish. The building was designed by a local farmer and built by a Scotsman.

9 The Ameliasburgh Municipal Hall consists of a one-storey, one-room hall, measuring 35 by 60 feet long. The builder was J.E. Sprague, a local farmer and politician.

10 The gable decoration became popular in Ontario during the 1870s. Three other surviving town halls featuring this Gothic gable carving are the township halls of Thurlow in Canifton, built in 1873; Hungerford in Tweed, built in 1877 (both located in southern Ontario near Belleville, and constructed of red brick); and Dawn in Rutherford, constructed of yellow brick. Minor alterations to the Sophiasburgh Township Hall include the addition of a fire station to the rear in about 1970.

11 Originally an open hall, the building was subdivided when it was converted into a private residence in 1966.

12 Further examples are the architect-designed Manvers Township Hall (1912), as well as the township halls of Osgoode (1896), Finch (1928), Nepean (1896) and Yarmouth (1904-6).

13 Erected by a local builder, John Wood, the Melbourne hall is about 30 by 60 feet long. A porch was added to the entrance in 1969.

14 The first Surrey Municipal Hall was, however, drastically altered when it became part of a museum complex.

15 "Calgary's City Hall," Medicine Hat News (26 April 1906), p. 1.

16 Sydney M. Wickett, "Municipal Government in the North-West Territories," in Municipal Government in Canada, Vol. 2. Ed. Sydney M. Wickett (Toronto: University of Toronto, Studies in History and Economics, 1907 reprint), p. 155.

17 Robert Collins, "The Municipal Office," Western Municipal News, Vol. 33, No. 11 (Nov. 1938), p. 312.

18 "Town Hall, Strathclair, Man.," Western Municipal News (Dec. 1906), p. 279.

19 "Design for a Small Town Hall," Western Municipal News Vol. 3 (Mar. 1908), p. 703.

20 Talbot Hamlin, Architecture Through the Ages (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1940), pp. 529-30.

21 Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture From the First Colonial Settlement to the National Period (New York: Oxford University Press, 1952), p. 291.

22 "Warden's Residence, Kingston Penitentiary," in Dana H. Johnson and C.J. Taylor, "Reports on Selected Buildings in Kingston, Ontario," Manuscript Report Series No. 261 (Ottawa: Environment Canada – Parks, 1976-77), Vol. 2, pp. 379-85.

23 Robert M. Disher, The Bertie Town Hall Story 1874-1974 (n.p.: n.p., 1974), pp. 6 and 17. An interesting tale is told of the council's selection of township treasurer:

> It may have been the $10,000 in Bonds which Ralph laid on the table that got him the job but it may also be that, with no bank in Ridgeway, he had the best deposit place for the Treasurer's funds. As a keeper of bees, Ralph stowed the cash in his hives awaiting his periodic trips to Port Colborne by train to do his banking.[25]

24 "Rural Township Halls," Municipal World, Vol. 40, No. 6 (June 1905), p. 346.

25 This building was demolished in the 1950s. Note that the market moved out a few years after the city occupied the building.

26 Palliser, Palliser and Company, Palliser's American Architecture; or Every Man a Complete Builder (New York: J.S. Ogilvie, 1888).

27 Margaret Angus, The Old Stones of Kingston (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1966), p. 20.

28 "Perth Public Works," Courier (Perth), editorial (15 May 1863). This building has been restored.

29 Ralph Greenhill, Ken Macpherson and Douglas Richardson, Ontario Towns (Ottawa: Oberon, 1974), n.p.

30 The St. Mary's hall contained a jail, a fire station and a market in addition to town offices. The fire engine room and police cells were

situated in the basement storey, while offices for the mayor, the clerk, treasurer, public health nurse and the building inspector as well as a police court or council chamber were located in the ground storey. A large auditorium with a stage and balcony occupies the second storey.

31 Keith Bantock, "St. Mary's Town Halls." Manuscript on file, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Environment Canada – Parks, Ottawa, 1978.

32 Town of Clinton, Contracts and Specifications of the Town and Market Hall for the Town of Clinton.

33 In the Lunenburg County Court House, the town offices occupy the ground storey, while the court facilities are located in the second storey, and various community rooms are situated on the third floor. The Bridgewater town offices now occupy the former fire station and public works building.

34 The ground floor of the Stellarton Town Hall housed the town offices, the police station with its jail cells, and a fire station at the back (removed in 1979 and replaced by the streets department). The upper storey contained the firemen's recreation room, the engineering department, the council chamber and the caretaker's apartment.

35 The Moosomin Town Hall cost $23 000 and measures 45 by 80 feet long. Originally a high-towered hall, its roof line has been flattened.

36 Charles Adrian and Ernest S. Griffith, A History of American City Government: The Formation of Traditions, 1775-1870 (New York: Praeger Publishers, 1976), p. 221. Of the creation of professional bureaucrats in the post-1870 period in the United States, authors Charles Adrian and Ernest S. Griffith write:

> ...because the councilmen were commonly individuals who had fulltime jobs in business or the professions, council committees as administrative supervisors became increasingly a burden upon the participants and less practical as an administrative structure.

IV. "WITH OUR TAX MONEY": THE THORNY PROBLEM OF TOWN HALL CONSTRUCTION

Marc de Caraffe

INTRODUCTION

One might think that municipal politics was treated lightly in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, judging by the fact that many projects of municipal officials in that period were challenged in the courts or, like the Moncton town hall built in 1916, were the object of ridicule: "The fact that the new City Hall was not parallel to main street caused some jokes to the effect that it was already *crooked*."[1] Although the newspapers made abundant use of humour, politics was taken very seriously. Canadian municipal government has had an eventful history, which was often reflected in town hall construction.

The development of municipal government in Canada was a subject of conflict between the political authorities and the population. At times the colonial authorities in some parts of the country were very suspicious of local government.

In other places and in different periods, the opposite occurred: it was the taxpayers who were opposed to it. The difficult birth of municipal government had serious consequences for everything remotely connected with its operation, especially its finances.

Municipal government is the level of government that affects citizens most directly. In the 19th century its chief responsibilities were street maintenance, the quality of agricultural products, public safety and water supply. Its powers grew over the years to take in a host of other areas, including mass transit, recreation, public health and welfare.

To meet these heavy responsibilities, the municipalities had only meagre sources of revenue compared with those of the provincial and federal governments. In general, they could levy a number of taxes, some very unpopular, which varied from province to province. The property tax was the most important and the most widespread.[2] Since this tax did not respond quickly to economic fluctuations, it was often so unsuccessful that one author has described it as "one of the significant institutional accidents of Canadian Economic History."[3]

It was in this context that municipal councils built their town halls. In the following pages we will see what conditions, both political and economic, affected the construction of town halls in each region of the country before 1930, in an attempt to discover to what extent these buildings reflect the financial resources that were available to the communities.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Strange as it may seem for a region whose settlement dates back several centuries, municipal government is a recent phenomenon in the

Atlantic provinces. This is apparently due as much to administrative centralization on the part of the colonial and provincial governments as to the reluctance of the population to pay the cost of local public works.

Newfoundland provides a perfect illustration of this ambivalence. There pressure groups were formed, not to set up local government, but to oppose the colonial government's attempts to introduce it.[4] Between 1908 and 1920 one such group, the Society of United Fishermen Union, proposed its co-operative associations as an alternative to municipal government. The lack of money in an area where barter predominated prevented the creation of any governmental system whose revenue was derived from direct taxes. Moreover, since community services were provided by religious and philanthropic organizations, the need for additional local services was seldom felt in Newfoundland.

All public services in Newfoundland, with the exception of those offered by charitable organizations, were provided by the colonial government. Thus the members of the Legislature played the role of municipal councillors for the district which they represented. In fact, it was not until 1938 that a second Newfoundland municipality was incorporated, St. John's having been incorporated back in 1888. But St. John's had such limited powers and financial resources that it could not afford to build a city hall until 1960. Throughout the period in question, various buildings were used for public meetings, especially the Fishermen Union Halls (Figure 1).[5]

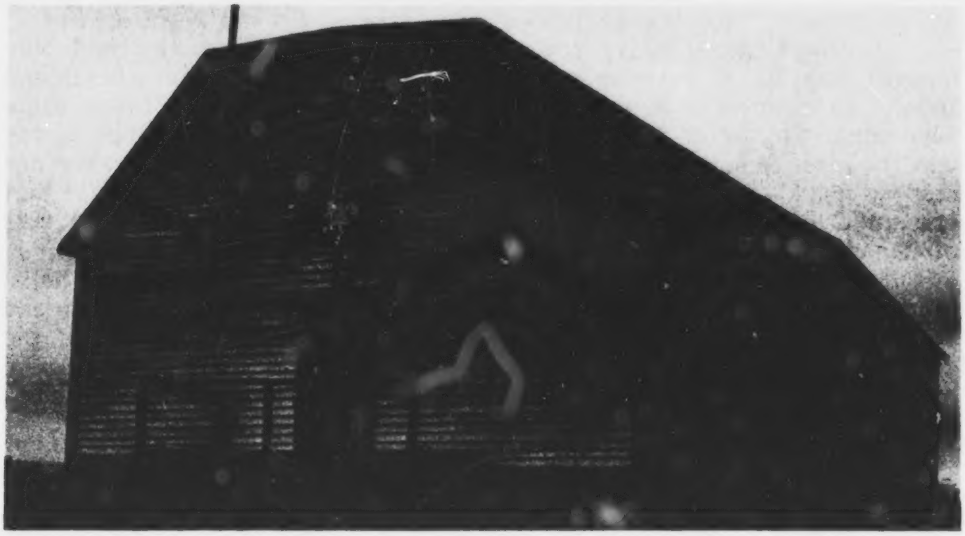


Figure 1. Hall of the Society of United Fishermen Union, Newborn, Nfld. For a number of years the buildings of this society were used for public meetings. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

There is some similarity between the development of municipal institutions in Newfoundland and that in Prince Edward Island. In P.E.I. too, local affairs were handled mainly by the colonial government, and this greatly slowed the normal growth of municipalities.

One of the main features of colonization in Prince Edward Island was the system of land granting (which was also a way of increasing the population), which prevented the islanders from gaining control of their own affairs until the end of the 19th century. In fact, the land had been granted in the 1760s to large owners on condition that they settle colonists there. This meant that the island's growth was always held back by the apathy of the non-resident owners, whose only interest in the colony was to collect the rent from their land.[6]

Since they were only tenants, the islanders could not be taxed to finance local projects. Responsibility for this was left to the legislative assembly. This administrative centralization was facilitated by the geography of the island, which, with the exception of a few population centres, formed a single large rural municipality. It was therefore easily managed by travelling justices of the peace and government agents (later replaced by members of the legislative assembly), who passed on requests for local services to the government.

The predominantly agricultural nature of the island created little need for municipal services so that the provincial per capita debt (including the debt for urban services) was only a third that of the other provinces (excluding local public works). In short, in terms of urban centralization, needs and costs were small in Prince Edward Island.[7] In general, municipal councils held their public meetings in churches, courthouses or inns, except in Charlottetown and Summerside (the only two incorporated communities in the province in the 19th century), where municipal halls had been built. Only Charlottetown's city hall, completed in 1888, is still standing (Figure 2).

The history of municipal government in Nova Scotia, from which New Brunswick separated in 1784, is characterized by the growth of the central authority at the expense of local autonomy. Immigrants from New England made up the greater part of Nova Scotia's population in the 18th century, and until the American War of Independence they enjoyed the same institutions as they had had in New England.

In southwestern Nova Scotia, these newcomers built meeting-houses (civic and religious) similar to those found in the American states. The colonial government was suspicious of such autonomy, preferring to deal with more centralized units, the counties and districts. Shortly after the American Revolution, all vestiges of autonomy were taken away from the population of Nova Scotia. Local affairs were entrusted to the grand jury, composed of the chief landowners in each county, and to the justices of the peace, who were appointed by the lieutenant governor. This system was also in effect in New Brunswick. In this way, the colonial authorities believed they could prevent the spread of republican ideas.

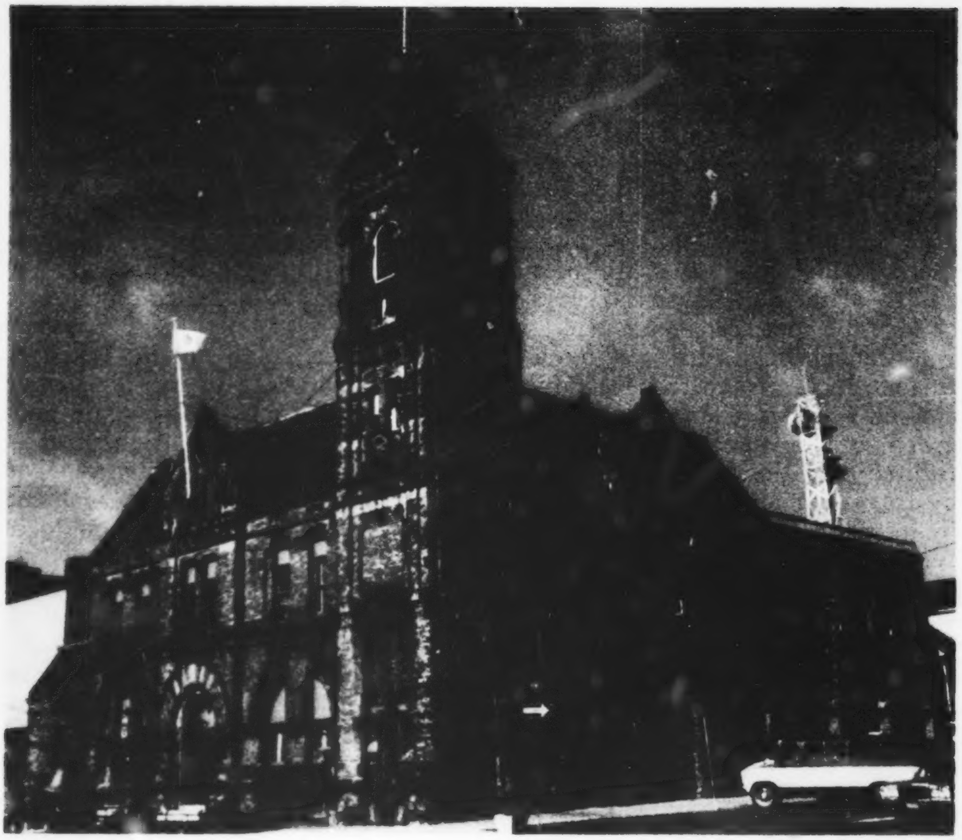


Figure 2. Charlottetown City Hall, built 1887-88; Philips & Chappell, architects. Originally, the fire hall occupied a large part of the building. (Heritage Recording Services Section, Restoration Services Division, Environment Canada – Parks)

Gradually, all local powers passed into the hands of the justices of the peace, with the grand jury now exercising only financial control. However, this system does not seem to have been very efficient:

> In theory, the power of the justices of the peace in sessions was derived from a strong central authority, but in fact they enjoyed considerable freedom, and patronage and abuse were rife. The justices, who were farmers, lawyers and merchants, varied widely in their education, conscience and ability. Litigation was often encouraged merely for the sake of obtaining fees and commissions. The system retarded local progress and was inefficient judicially.[9]

The population of the two colonies tolerated this system, however, because it cost little. The central government undertook to pay for all local improvements, so the citizens did not have to pay taxes to an additional level of government.

Under this system, only a few towns incorporated themselves (for example, Saint John in 1785), but the Legislative Assembly retained the main municipal prerogatives, leaving few powers to those centres. In 1850, the privilege of municipal incorporation was extended to townships and counties. This had little effect, however, since the people were not eager to incorporate because of the financial obligations involved. Thus, Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia, was incorporated in 1855, but three years later renounced that costly honour.[10]

In time, the central government was overburdened with requests for local improvements, which took up a great deal of its attention and revenues. The solution was to give municipalities the job of looking after their own affairs.

In 1877 in New Brunswick, and in 1879 in Nova Scotia, legislation was enacted to incorporate all counties, which became responsible for local works, such as the building of courthouses.[11] Subsequently, these responsibilities were extended to municipalities. By 1896 New Brunswick had a town incorporation act, and by 1920 a village incorporation act. In 1888 the government of Nova Scotia passed a town incorporation act.[12] Thus there was finally a return to the democratic spirit that had flourished in the region in the 18th century. Thenceforth, municipal governments, not the provincial government, would have financial responsibility for local improvements.

Thus municipalities had a financial burden placed upon them at a time when many of them were not economically able to assume this new role. Since the 1850s, the Maritimes had been suffering a recession caused by their integration into the continental economy.[13] A number of communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick declined, while a few large cities benefited from technological changes and grew in industrial importance. For example, in 1855 Shediac was more important economically than Moncton. Thirty years later Shediac passed under the domination of Moncton.[14]

The coming of the railway put an end to coastal trade, one of the main activities of the Maritimes, and paralysed the economy of the small ports. The railway benefited only a few inland municipalities along the line.

Many communities fell into decline, while others fought desperately to survive. The case of New Glasgow in Nova Scotia, illustrates the precariousness of their situation:

> First real and personal property assessment after incorporation 1876 was $401,620; divided by wards into $142,470, Ward One, $210,390, Ward Two and $48,760, Ward Three [...]. The council struck a first year tax rate of 2 and 1/10%, and authorized a

> discount of 2% for cash. The estimates provided, for the county assessment, $1,352; poor, $1,000; fire department, $708; streets, $2,000; salaries $3,200; for a total of $8,910 [*sic*]. Poll receipts were estimated at $1,200, leaving $7,710 to be found from taxes on real and personal property. Poll tax was set at $2.00 cash, or two days labor for the town. David Marshall was appointed first street superintendent, at $1.50 a day.[15]

After setting a tax rate of 2.1%, the municipal council could not ask for more from its ratepayers. With such resources, it is not surprising that this council decided to rent premises for its meetings. Since the greater part of its funds went to social assistance, street repairs and salaries, there was nothing left for the construction of a town hall (and this was the case for 38 years).

In Nova Scotia, in the latter part of the 19th century, local revenues were derived mostly from poll taxes and property taxes, with income tax playing only a minor role. In New Brunswick the tax structure was substantially the same, except that income tax accounted for up to a third of the revenues of municipal corporations.[16] With this method of financing, municipalities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were particularly sensitive to fluctuations in the economy. For example, the large-scale emigration at the end of the 19th century cost them a large part of their revenues. Moreover, the lack of growth in employment held property values down. Since people with small incomes do not usually make improvements to their houses, the value of housing stock rose hardly at all.[17] In such circumstances, municipal councils seldom had the resources to build town halls and, like New Glasgow, had to settle for renting or purchasing a building. Only a few municipalities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick could afford to build a town hall.

Fredericton's present city hall, built in 1875-76, cost only $36 000,[18] and part of that amount was paid by an insurance company in compensation for the destruction by fire of the previous municipal building. But the city had overestimated its revenues, and in 1880 had to borrow an additional $5000 to pay off the builders. Despite the relatively small amount spent on the construction of the city hall, the building proved to be a burden on the municipal corporation, which in 1898 had to borrow a further $6500 to repair it.[19]

Over the years the economic situation of the Maritimes did not improve. In the 1880s population growth slowed as people left the region to seek work elsewhere. However, between 1890 and 1914, structural changes in the production of iron, steel and coal enabled a few municipalities to prosper. However, this new concentration of manufacturing in the large cities led to the gradual disappearance of village industries, thus depriving small localities of major sources of revenue.

The end of the First World War brought a new economic slowdown in all sectors – iron and steel production, fisheries, agriculture and forestry. When the provincial government turned over responsibility for local affairs to the cities, towns and villages, many of these corporations found themselves in financial difficulty as a result of the long-standing poor economic situation. It is therefore not surprising that few municipal halls, even the most modest, were built.[20]

The weakness of the Maritimes' economy and the precariousness of the municipal tax base explain why even cities the size of Fredericton found it difficult to build and maintain a city hall. Most of the municipalities that ventured into this area did so cautiously in order to stay (as much as possible) within their means.

QUEBEC

During the French regime, most of the regulations governing community life were issued by the intendant, who, in addition to his responsibilities in the colonial government, combined in his person the functions and powers today attributed to councillors or aldermen.[21] At the local level, the seigneurs were responsible for improvements to their properties, under the watchful eye of the intendant.

Several attempts were made to counteract this administrative centralization, but the corrective measures failed to please the absolutist spirit of the age. For example, in 1673 aldermen were appointed for Quebec City. They were given responsibility for a number of municipal matters, such as testing of weights and measures, house inspection, street repair and enforcement of the tavern closing time. These municipal officials had stalls and shops set up in the public market square in order to collect rents to subsidize their activities. This embryonic municipal system did not last long, although it belonged to a long-established European tradition. It was abolished in 1677 by Louis XIV, who feared that his authority might be undermined.[22]

Throughout the French regime, when local affairs were managed by the intendants and seigneurs, it was not necessary to construct municipal buildings. Public meetings, called "assemblées de police générale" (established in 1676 and called on rare occasions), gave the people a forum for expressing their views on community matters.[23] Throughout this period, the parish was the main organizational unit of local life, and it was to remain a permanent feature of municipal government in the province of Quebec.

The French defeat in 1759 brought few changes in this situation, as local administration passed to the British governor. With the passing of the Constitutional Act of 1791, these powers were transferred to the newly created Assembly. Thenceforth its members were responsible for local projects (and took advantage of this to make political capital in their constituencies). French Canadians, who formed a majority in the Assembly, soon learned to use customs tariffs to finance public works, thus taxing the English merchants.[24]

Lord Durham saw this taxing method as the source of the influence for the rebellious parliamentarians in Lower Canada. He sought to reduce their importance by advocating the establishment of municipal institutions.[25] Accordingly, in 1840 a special council divided Lower Canada (which had recently become Canada East) into districts, which replaced the counties. The governor appointed a director for each district, as well as councillors responsible for collecting property taxes. The French Canadians vigorously opposed this new system. They viewed the district councils as "tax machines" which would further increase the burden of seigneurial rents and tithes, since they were accustomed to using customs duties to finance public expenditures. The system was abolished in 1848, and the territory was divided into smaller units – municipalities.[26]

Thus before 1845 the population of the St. Lawrence Valley did not have the opportunity to set up municipal government. After the French regime the only local institution that survived, albeit with difficulty, was the parish, which was the only organizational unit with which French Canadians really identified. But the parish was not officially recognized by government authorities, who preferred a more centralized, and therefore more easily controllable, structure – the district.

Under the 1845 act cities, towns, parishes and townships would henceforth be legally recognized corporations. They could even levy taxes.[27] The English elite of Montreal used this opportunity to decide on the immediate construction of a city hall that would house a public market and an auditorium. It was to be more than 500 feet long and would cost £70 000.[28] This building would eventually be known as Bonsecours Market (Figure 3).

This system did not last long. In 1847 the parishes and townships lost their autonomy and came under the new county municipalities, which were henceforth responsible for improvements affecting the county as a whole (construction of courthouses, roads and bridges).[29] There was a return to the spirit of the 1840 act.

With the abolition of the seigneurial system in 1854, it became necessary to establish a coherent municipal system. In 1855 the Assembly of United Canada passed the Lower Canada Municipal and Road Act. Legal recognition was once again given to parishes and townships that had at least 300 inhabitants. Moreover, it was stipulated that, to be incorporated, a village had to have at least 40 inhabited houses in an area of 60 *arpents*, and that 2000 signatures had to be collected for a community to become a town.[30]

The provisions of the 1855 act, which finally recognized the social role of the parish, explain in part the relative scarcity of municipal halls in rural Quebec. Until 1949 the parish hall, formerly called the "salle des habitants," was the usual location of public meetings of the parish. Moreover, the Quebec Municipal Code permitted only towns, villages and

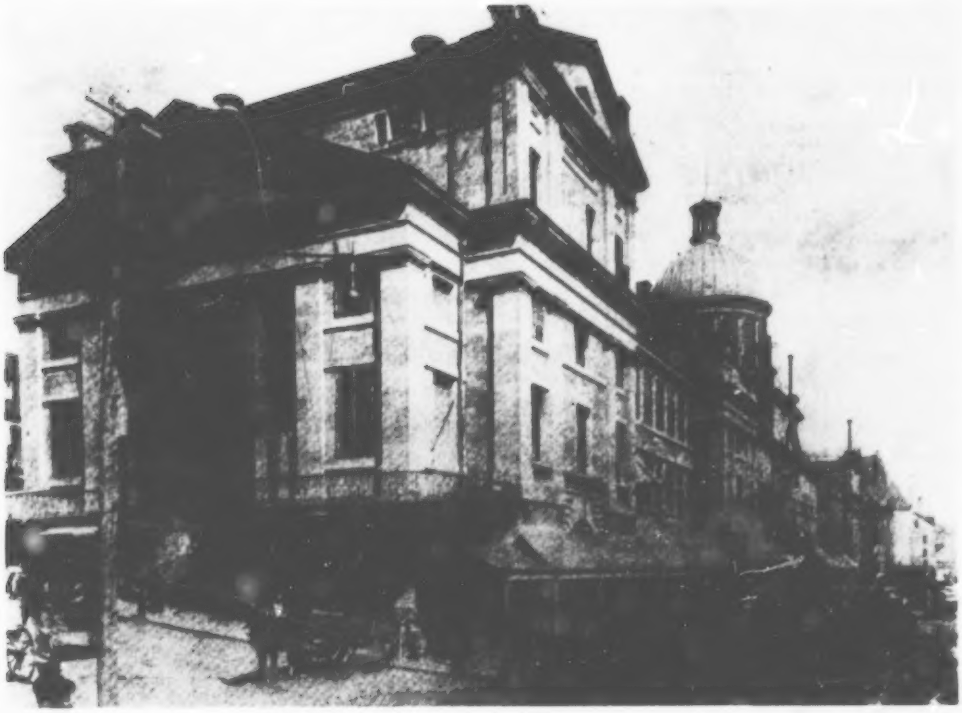


Figure 3. Bonsecours Market, Montreal, built between 1845 and 1852; William Footner, architect. Note the crowd around the building, which was the only public building that made a profit for the Montreal municipal corporation. (Public Archives of Canada)

counties to tax real property, traditionally the main source of municipal revenue in Quebec.[31] In parishes, only the parish councils, by means of the tithe, had the resources to undertake construction. Thus, in Mont-Saint-Hilaire, the meetings of the municipal council were held until 1957 in a house built in 1889 to house the beadle (Figure 4) and in which the parish council had set up rooms for public meetings.[32]

The 1855 act recognized once and for all the county municipalities, parishes and townships, but, paradoxically, the last two levels found themselves once more under the guardianship of the first. In fact, in the case of major public works concerning the county as a whole, such as bridges and courthouses, the cost was borne by all the municipalities in the county in proportion to the number of their ratepayers, and the work was done by the county corporation. This downgrading of the role of the parish council in favour of the county corporations caused the parish to fall behind in community development. Parish councils, lacking sufficient revenues, had to make do with parish halls, whereas in the county seat, where the county court sat, as at Inverness, the courthouse could be used to accommodate the municipal authorities.

The English-speaking rural municipalities could not hold their meetings in parish halls for fear of offending the religious convictions of ratepayers of different denominations. They had to build or purchase municipal halls with the meagre revenues at their disposal; that is why so many of these buildings were constructed by community labour. According to its secretary-treasurer, this was the case with the town hall of Bolton-Est (Figure 5), built in 1867, in which the one-room English school was housed as a further economy.

Throughout the 19th century, the situation was not much better in urban centres. The governments of cities, despite their size and economic power, were considered of secondary importance. Although Montreal, in

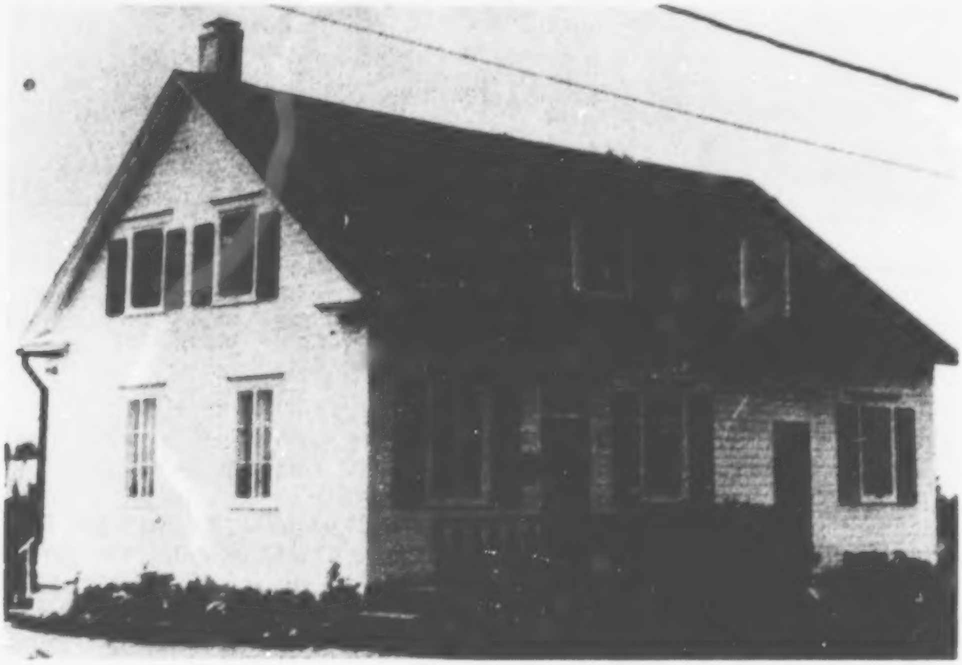


Figure 4. Former parish hall of Mont-Saint-Hilaire, Que., built 1889; Joseph Auclair, builder. This building was erected under the direction of the parish priest to be used for community purposes and to house the beadle. Thus it formed an extension of the "salle des habitants." (J. Armand Cardinal, Société historique de la vallée du Richelieu).

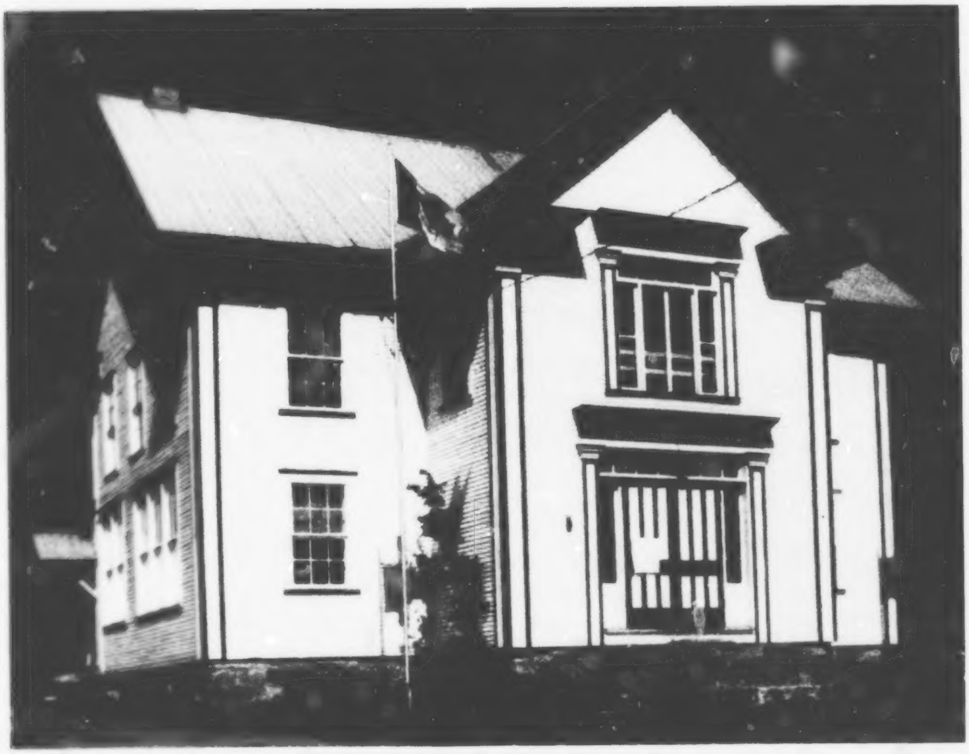


Figure 5. Town hall, Bolton-Est, Que., built ca. 1867 by community labour. A schoolroom accounts for the large windows on the ground floor (to the left) and the size of the building. (Heritage Recording Services Section, Restoration Services Division, Environment Canada — Parks)

1870, was $5 million in debt, the quality of life of its citizens was not one of the best: the streets were in poor condition and sanitary conditions were so inadequate that epidemics regularly broke out.

This deplorable state of affairs did not prevent Montreal's city council from having a second city hall built, at a cost of $452 000, between 1872 and 1878, in the midst of an economic slump which almost paralysed construction of the cathedral.[33] The municipal authorities wanted to be housed in a new building farther from the port and closer to the business district. Bonsecours Market was henceforth used only as a public market, and proved to be a highly profitable operation. Because of inadequate revenues and poor management, Montreal's urgently needed public services were long neglected, with the possible exception of the police and fire departments. At a time when government intervention was rare, the city fathers preferred to build a second city hall more in keeping with Montreal's new image, rather than improve public services.

The depression that hit Montreal in 1873 spread to the whole province and lasted until 1896, except for a few brief recoveries.[34] This slump also extended to the international capital market, and the budgets of Quebec's cities and towns were seriously affected, since it was no longer possible to borrow cheaply. Lavish spending was therefore out of the question, except in Montreal. Thus, in Quebec City, council meetings were held in a house purchased in 1840 for £3250. Since 1883 the steady increase in municipal services had made it necessary to bring the various offices together under the same roof. It was not until 1889 that a lot was purchased and an architectural competition held for a new city hall. In 1891 a plan was drawn up, based on the winning design. Although the city managed to keep the costs within reasonable limits ($144 484), it was another three years before it could afford to award the building contract.[35] Quebec City's aldermen, unlike Montreal's, considered a city hall neither a priority nor a status symbol.

Paradoxically, during this depression, the province of Quebec became increasingly urbanized, especially after 1880,[36] so that by the turn of the century municipal governments were a force to be reckoned with. In the face of this new population trend, the provincial government had to amend the 1855 act. In 1903 it passed the Cities and Towns Act, finally recognizing the importance of municipal corporations, while limiting their financial powers. Henceforth, rural municipalities could borrow up to ten per cent of the value of their total assessment, villages up to 15 per cent, and cities 20 per cent.[37] Such provisions should have encouraged caution in public spending, but this was not always the case. For example, the mayor of Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End, which was at the time the third-largest city in the province, refused to sign the building contract for the town hall, on the grounds that, before committing himself to certain requirements, he wished to consult the city's solicitors.[38] The councillors disregarded the mayor's refusal and signed the contract anyway – an act that was to have disastrous consequences. A few months after the opening ceremony for the building, the city was annexed to Montreal, its credit having been exhausted by the cost of this construction and nothing being left for the day-to-day running of the municipality. The building has since been used as a fire hall and police station.

The paucity of resources available to Quebec municipal corporations, even after 1903, was one reason for the reluctance to build town halls. In fact, caution was always necessary when it came to building a town hall in Quebec. For example, before Rimouski's present city hall was built, the city made do for many years with a meeting place which, according to a local journalist, left a great deal to be desired:

> It is easy to understand why few citizens cared to attend municipal meetings in the small room that has just been vacated. It had a sad, shabby appearance, was pitiably furnished with primitive

> backless benches, and was heated in winter with a rudimentary furnace around which the occupants roasted. Attendance was usually very small. If there was some special session in which the public was more interested, the room became so crowded that the air was soon unbreathable. Two-thirds of the spectators had to stand, jammed against one another. When they left, they were dripping with sweat, half asphyxiated, their eyes red and burning from the smoke from the pipes which were smoked so freely, needless to say, in a place ill suited to the observance of the prescriptions of etiquette and hygiene.[39]

The journalist went on to write that the new building, with its central heating and better ventilation, would no longer make it "a heroic mortification" for citizens to attend council meetings.[40] Despite these improvements, construction of the new building caused acrimonious debate and a rather violent election campaign. The question had to be settled by means of a referendum. A generous grant from the provincial government for the fire department to be housed in the building amounted to an indirect subsidy for construction of the municipal centre and overcame the ratepayers' hesitancy. This example shows the strength of the opposition that Quebec municipal councils met when they tried to build a town hall. They had to take into account the ratepayers' capacity and willingness to pay, as much as administrative needs. For this reason, they usually decided to purchase and convert a building, rather than build a town hall (Figure 6). This proved to be a more economical solution and removed the voters' apprehensions.

Sometimes, however, building a town hall was a sound investment and received the immediate approval of the citizens. For example, Roberval was made the seat of a Superior Court district on condition that the municipal corporation built a courthouse. So in 1908-09 a building was constructed to serve as both courthouse and town hall. In 1912 the provincial government bought the building,[41] but let the municipal council continue to hold its meetings there. More than ten years later the municipal council built a new town hall with the money from the sale, thus displaying, unlike Montreal's aldermen a few years earlier, sound management.

In the 20th century the financial situation of Quebec municipalities has undergone a number of changes. The province's relative prosperity in the first third of the century enabled municipal corporations to provide their citizens with more and better services.[42] In addition, the imposition of a sales tax by the cities greatly improved their financial situation.[43] A significant change in the urban landscape of Quebec occurred during that period with the heavy concentration of the population in the Montreal area.[44] This gave rise to several dynamic, prosperous municipalities (such as Westmount, Maisonneuve, Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End and Sainte-Cunégonde) and explains the number of imposing pre-1930 town halls still found on Montreal Island.

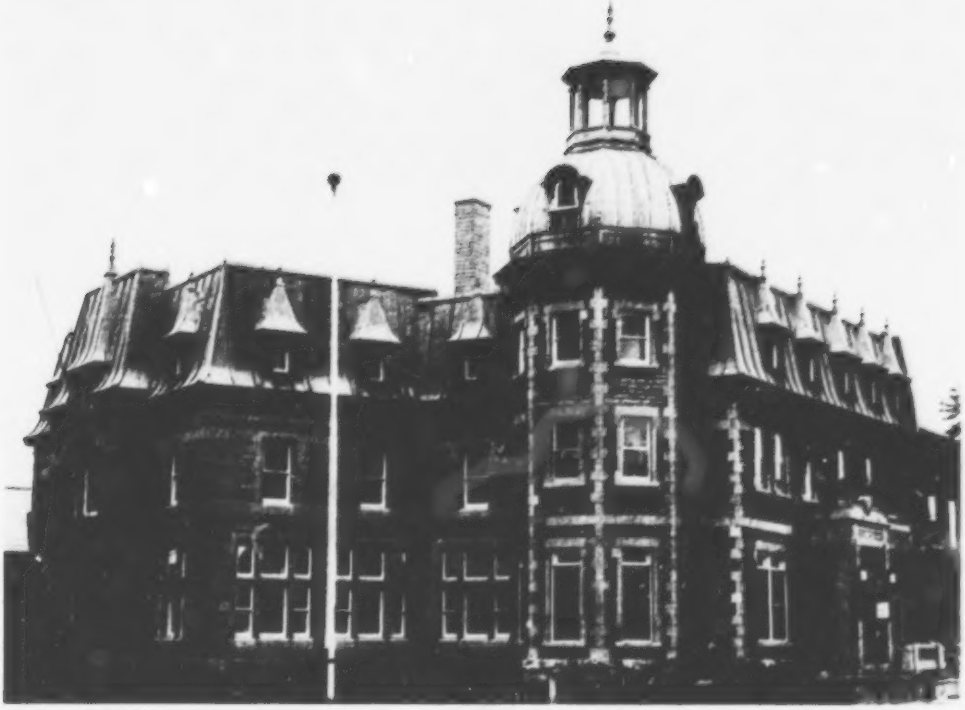


Figure 6. Town hall, Saint-Hyacinthe, Que. Purchased at a cost of $30 000, it was the former headquarters of the "Union Saint-Joseph" banking firm. The annex was a telephone exchange before it too was purchased by the town. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

ONTARIO

The history of municipal government in Ontario is characterized by the gradual strengthening of this level of government in relation to the central government. This political gain took place within an economic framework that was very favourable for the expansion of the powers of municipalities, which soon became essential to the smooth running of the provincial government and thus important components of the overall system of government.

In 1792, a year after its creation, the Assembly of Upper Canada established townships and districts so that new immigrants, mostly Loyalists, could oversee local affairs. However, since the colonial government, like the government in Nova Scotia, was suspicious of republican ideas, it used its authority to appoint the officers of districts, the most important administrative units.

Township meetings were held annually to elect local officials, such as pathmasters and fence viewers, who had very limited powers. Local assemblies were feared so much that, before 1832, townships could not legally own property, and thus could not have municipal halls.[45]

In the cities, too, the growth of municipal government was slow. An initial decentralizing measure was the establishment of Boards of Police, which were elective bodies responsible for maintaining general public order, but which had very little real political power.[46] Subsequently, cities were incorporated on an individual basis (Toronto, in 1834, was the first). This legislation, specific to each locality, was intended to provide better control of municipal affairs: "The province yielded only modest, and quite specific, powers to each incorporated body; each was incorporated by a special act of the legislature, which outlined the powers each would have."[47] This legislative control went so far that it was the Assembly of Upper Canada, not the newly formed urban corporations, that had the power to decide where the public market and town hall would be located, what funds could be raised for their construction and the maximum tax rate to finance it. Only Toronto and Kingston were allowed to borrow without the approval of the legislature. As early as 1835, Toronto city council issued bonds at six per cent interest for the sum of £5000 in order to finance public works – a first in Canada.[48]

Kingston used this privilege to finance the construction of its impressive city hall in 1843-44. This project had been conceived in an atmosphere of euphoria. The city's commercial importance as a port had generated a wave of optimism among both ratepayers and promoters of the scheme. A £20 00 loan was negotiated on the London market -a colossal sum for a city of Kingston's size. In the end, the project cost £28 000, but there was confidence in the future and little thought was given to limiting expenditures.

Unfortunately, the transfer of the Legislative Assembly of United Canada to Montreal led to the stagnation of Kingston's financial market, and this was aggravated by the decline in port activity. Lacking funds, the city had to rent out various parts of the new city hall – which were used as, among other things, a saloon, a post office and a warehouse – in the hope of meeting its contractual obligations. For a long time, the public market (Figure 7) and rent from the huge hall that was to have served as the assembly chamber were the main sources of financing for the building.[49] This fiasco aroused the ire of the local press. One journalist commented, "As to the building ever paying common interest, that is out of the question, unless the Province could be induced to take the City Hall for a Lunatic Asylum, making its projectors the first inmates therein."[50] And this was only one hostile criticism among many. In contrast, the city of Toronto built, also in 1844, a stone and brick building only 140 feet long (compared with Kingston's 320 feet) at a cost of only £8500.[51] Toronto's city fathers did not get carried away by their new autonomy and speculate on the future of their city.

An attempt at decentralization took place in 1842, when the government of United Canada decreed that the members of district councils would be elected. However, this measure had the effect of lessening the already limited powers of the townships. Henceforth all public works costing more than £300 had to be approved by the provincial Board of Works before the townships could proceed.[52] For their part, district officials tried by every means to keep a close watch on all expenditures of less than £300 by township corporations, in order to make their authority felt and to attract votes.

The district councillors' control extended even to the choice of location of the township hall. For example, it was the Home District Council which authorized the erection of a town hall at Vellore, in Vaughan Township, in 1845, and which instructed tax collectors in that township to

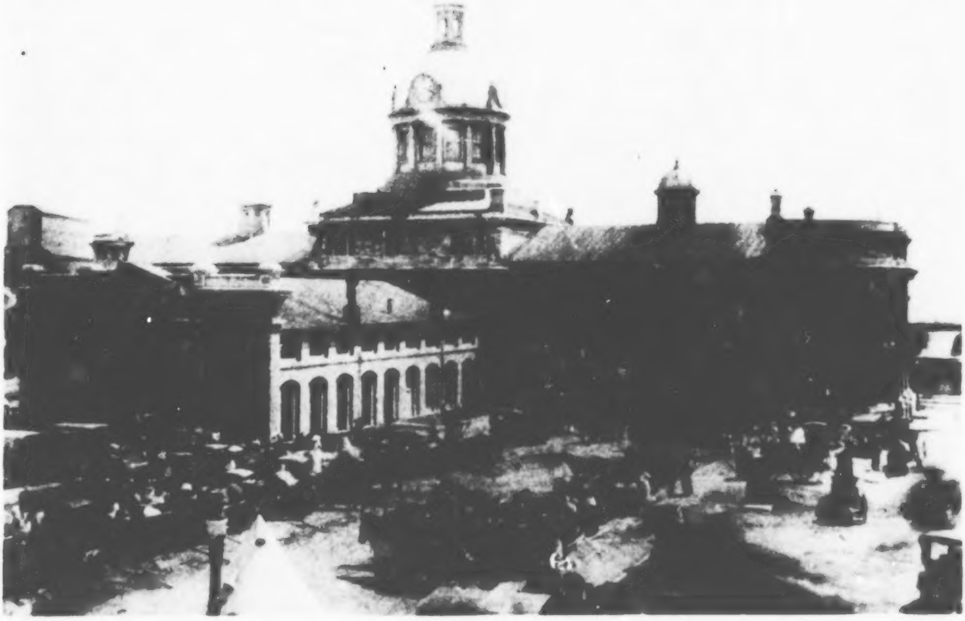


Figure 7. Rear view of Kingston City Hall, built 1843-44; George Browne, architect. Despite the revenue derived from the public market, this building soon became a burden on the ratepayers of Kingston. (Archives of Ontario)

assess a per capita levy of £148 for construction of the hall.[53] In such circumstances, it is easy to understand why few township officials were interested in building a municipal hall when its construction would be managed by outsiders.

The overlapping of the powers of township and district councils, combined with the special legislation under which each new city or town was incorporated, caused great confusion in the municipal system of the region, which, since 1840, had been known as Canada West. By 1849, there was utter chaos. Each corporation had its own maximum allowable taxation rate, as well as different powers, different ways of electing councils, and so on.[54]

The Baldwin Municipal Act of 1849 was to regularize this. Urban municipalities continued to be incorporated by special legislation, but their powers were henceforth standardized. Moreover, municipal corporations could spend their tax revenue and loans as they saw fit, without the direct control of the Parliament of United Canada.[55]

As long as the municipalities of Upper Canada, and later of Canada West, received only minimal powers from the central government, they did not need municipal halls. Township council meetings, which until 1849 were held once a year, were not sufficient justification, in the eyes of ratepayers, for construction of a special meeting hall. Generally, any public building, such as a tavern or school, was used.

When meetings were allowed to be held more regularly, town and rural halls were built in large number. According to historian M.C. Urquhart, the construction of municipal buildings was one of the main areas of public expenditure in the 19th century,[56] whereas little was spent on government services, with the exception of railways and canals. With few opportunities to spend, a number of municipalities in Canada West could afford to build an administrative centre. Since the communities of Canada West took in more revenue than municipal corporations in other parts of Canada, they played a more influential role in the general administration of their province.

Despite their slow beginnings, cities and towns in Canada West eventually developed a system of taxation on real property and income -a system which was operating very efficiently by the time of Confederation. J.H. Perry estimates that in 1868 Ontario municipalities collected more than 70 per cent of all municipal taxes in Canada.[57] This shows how advanced these communities were in this respect compared with cities and towns in Quebec and the Maritimes.

In November 1852 the government of United Canada created the Municipal Loan Fund, which enabled municipalities to borrow at the same interest rates as the central government.[58] This further increased the financial resources of communities in Canada West. The Municipal Loan Fund was introduced in order to enable municipalities to finance the construction of railway branch lines, thus relieving the central government of part of its obligations.

By means of this fund municipal corporations had access to easy and almost unlimited loans, since the loans were guaranteed by the central government. By 1859 they had incurred a total debt of more than $7 million, five million of which was used for the building of railways. The rest was allotted to various expenditures, including the erection of town halls.[59] In Canada East, only a few large cities used the Municipal Loan Fund, and they did so mainly to finance railway construction.

Thus an efficient tax system and easy credit enabled the town of Cobourg to spend what was then the huge sum of $110 000 on building a grandiose town hall (1856-60).[60] A climate of local prosperity removed any hesitancy about such a venture, even though Cobourg's size did not yet justify such a costly undertaking.

The same phenomenon can be observed in a number of other Ontario towns in the latter part of the 19th century. It was partly the result of civic pride, as will be seen in the last part of this chapter. Unfortunately, Cobourg's ambitions were too lofty. Its leaders thought they could finance the construction of a monumental town hall and at the same time spend $1 100 112 on the railway line to Peterborough. When a recession struck in 1860, the burden on the municipal corporation became too great, and the town was able to repay its creditors only over a long period and with many difficulties.[61]

Like Cobourg, a number of other municipalities (such as Guelph, Port Perry, and Brockville) were tempted by the financial gains and economic benefits promised by the construction of rail lines. Assured of large revenues and vast credit, and relying on the prosperity of the moment, they did not hesitate to erect monumental buildings at the same time as they were engaged in large-scale spending.

By about 1850, the cities and towns of Canada West had become, as a result of their financial contribution to railway building, a powerful political force and valuable partners in the eyes of the central government, which no longer viewed them with suspicion. Some idea of their economic power can be gained from the fact that in 1868 Ontario's municipal revenues totalled $3.2 million, while those of the federal government amounted to $13.7 million.[62] With so much financial power, combined with easy credit from the Municipal Loan Fund, it is not surprising that some Ontario municipalities built impressive civic centres at that time. After Confederation, the Ottawa government assumed responsibility for the construction of railway lines. Ontario municipalities then had a less critical role to play in the economy of their region, to the great relief of their ratepayers.

This move by the federal government did not slow down the rate of construction of town halls in Ontario. Only the size of these buildings changed, since the termination of the Municipal Loan Fund in 1873 enabled more municipalities to acquire a town hall, especially in rural areas. It also greatly reduced the towns' margin of credit and made it more difficult for them to build majestic town halls.

The results of the Municipal Loan Fund were disastrous. Many Ontario municipalities had overextended themselves and started falling behind in the payment of their debts, which totalled $7.2 million in 1873; some failed completely in their obligations.[63] As a result of these municipal corporations' lack of foresight, the Canadian government acquired a reputation as a poor credit risk in the London bond market. After two unsuccessful attempts by United Canada to limit municipal borrowing (1854 and 1859), the government of Ontario had to abolish the Municipal Loan Fund in 1873.[64] The elimination of this program clarified the situation of the province's debtor municipalities.

By means of the Act Respecting the Municipal Loan Fund Debts and Respecting Certain Payments to Municipalities (36 Victoria, ch. 47), the provincial government took over the unpaid municipal loans which it had guaranteed. Seven towns then had their Municipal Fund loans cancelled, while those of 22 other municipal corporations were reduced. Out of concern for fairness, grants were made to municipalities that had not borrowed, and many of these grants were used to build town halls.[65]

For example, on November 5, 1874, Verulam Township received a gift of $4600 from the province. It used $2000 of it to build a town hall that was more sophisticated than its needs warranted. Today this building serves as the fire hall for the town of Bobcaygeon (Figure 8). Similarly, the municipality of Port Perry was able to complete construction of its civic building and pay off the debt incurred for that purpose. At Wolfe Island, repairs were made to the town hall built in 1859. Other municipal corporations, such as Belleville, were able to pay off in full the debt incurred in building their town hall.[66] This unexpected windfall explains why so many town halls were built in Ontario between 1873 and 1875.

After being born in a climate of mistrust, municipal government in Ontario, like municipal government in many other parts of Canada, proved to be a useful partner to the central government in the financing of railway branch lines. With this new-found importance and access to considerable capital, Ontario towns soon embarked upon the construction of municipal buildings, of which more than 250 are still standing, albeit with some changes (Figure 9).

By the end of the 19th century, however, there was no longer such emphasis on town-hall building in Ontario. The increased need for urban services (such as roads and public transportation) made it less and less possible for municipalities (except the larger cities, like Toronto and Hamilton) to tie up capital in the construction of municipal buildings, without having to neglect more urgent social needs (Figure 10).[67] This new state of affairs, combined with federal legislation, explains why the large-scale construction of town halls, both monumental and rudimentary, was a mid-19th-century phenomenon in Ontario. The conditions at that time were simply favourable for such undertakings.

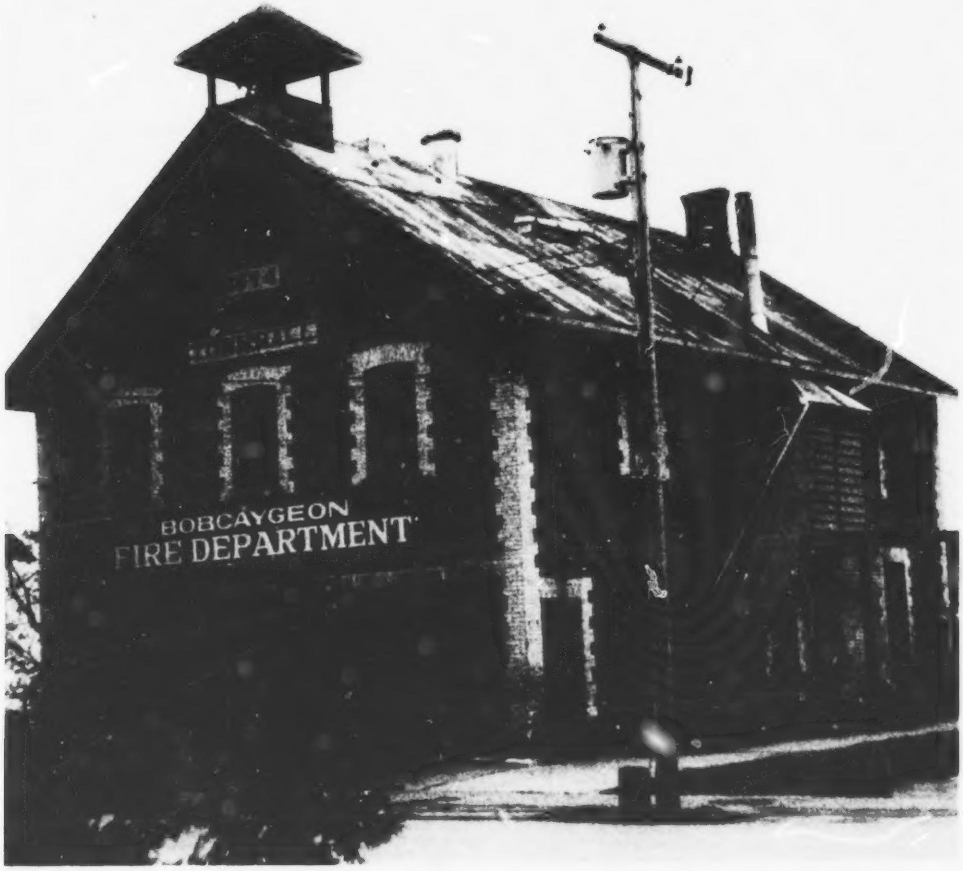

BOBCAYGEON
FIRE DEPARTMENT

Figure 8. Fire hall, Bobcaygeon, Ont., built 1874; architect unknown. In the 1870s windfall grants enabled several municipalities to build impressive town halls. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

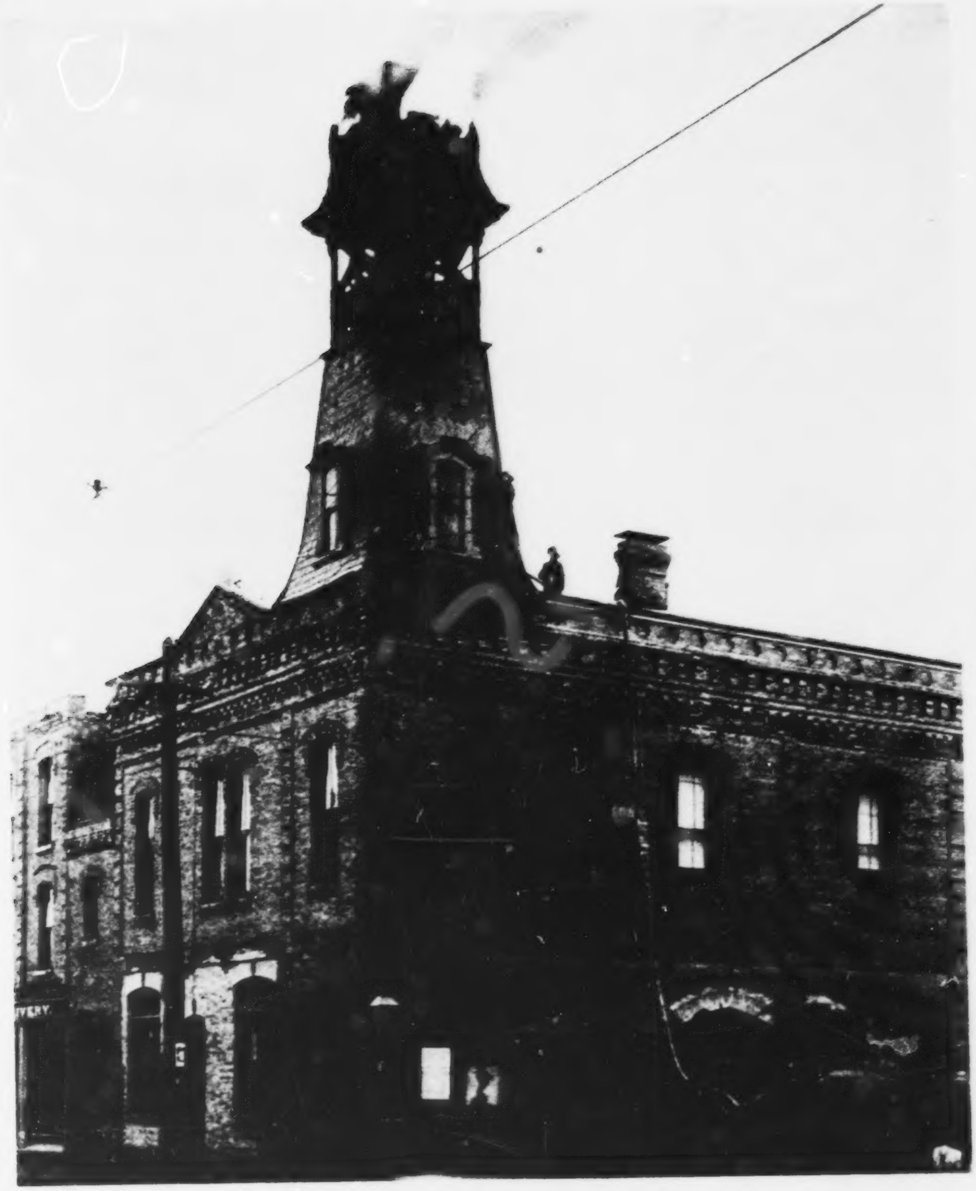


Figure 9. Lightning set fire to the clock tower of Oshawa (Ont.) city hall, July 16, 1909. Fires and demolition were "accidents" that have made any statistical study of town halls impossible. (Public Archives of Canada)

Figure 10. Toronto water supply, 1895. The cost of municipal services continued to rise as a result of the growth in the area and population of cities. (Public Archives of Canada)

PRAIRIE PROVINCES

In Manitoba, created in 1870, municipal government was introduced in the same way as in the eastern provinces. The first two acts – the County Assessment Act and the Parish Assessment Act – were passed in 1871 and divided the province into districts for local tax purposes.[68] The following year the members of the Court of Sessions were given responsibility for recommending to the provincial legislature a list of local improvements to be carried out. By 1881 the size of the territory made this system impracticable.

The heavy influx of Ontarians into Manitoba changed the situation. Since Ontario had had municipal government since 1849, these newcomers soon demanded it in Manitoba. In response to this demand, Manitoba was redivided in 1883 into 26 counties, which were in turn grouped under three judicial districts. This legislation, however, had little effect; the counties and districts were too large to allow sound management of local affairs.[69]

The county system was abandoned in 1886 in favour of rural municipalities. These new corporations, under the authority of appointed municipal commissioners, had responsibility for drainage, education, administration of justice and financial matters in their locality.[70] This system proved an immediate success. By 1912, there were 90 rural municipalities with their own field of taxation, grouped under five judicial districts.[71] The 1911 Rural Local Improvement District Act had broadened the powers of the municipalities, giving them full authority in matters within their jurisdiction.[72]

The system of municipal commissioners was created in an economic context that was fairly stable until 1896. Until that year, Manitoba's municipalities were recognized for their moderation in public spending; several refrained from borrowing altogether.[73] Since Manitoba's municipal tax structure was substantially the same as that of the eastern provinces,[74] until 1896 few Manitoba municipalities could afford to build town halls out of current revenues. Most contented themselves with renting.

When town halls were erected, the emphasis was placed on the practical rather than the monumental aspect of the building. Since firefighting was one of the responsibilities of municipal government, a fire hall was built. Included in the fire hall was a room large enough for council meetings, and sometimes an administrative office as well. However, municipal functions remained a secondary role of the building.[75] By acting in this way, the commissioners displayed responsible management — an attitude dictated by a difficult economic situation. Thus, for about ten years, until the early 1900s, most of the space in Virden's municipal office was taken up by the fire hall. The coming of economic prosperity was to change matters.

Between 1902 and 1912, a wave of land speculation hit the West, and municipal revenues reached an unprecedented high.[76] This sudden wealth altered the building habits of the commissioners, who finally found themselves able to spend more money on their town halls. In Manitoba, this financial surplus was used mainly to diversify the functions of municipal buildings. For example, in Virden, an auditorium (the "Aud Theatre") with a neon sign was added to the fire hall.[77] In Saskatchewan and Alberta, land speculation prompted municipal officials to plunge into the building of impressive town halls.

Manitoba's experience provided a lesson when it came to introducing municipal government into the North West Territories (the future provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta). While those territories were still under the control of the federal government, Ottawa passed a law in 1872 to organize townsites.[78] The emergence of large population centres, such as Prince Albert, Regina and Battleford, led the federal government to make regulations in 1883 governing the incorporation of these urban areas into cities.[79]

The citizens of Prince Albert took advantage of their new powers to introduce a wide range of urban services. After an initial period (1866-1874) of rather slow settlement, this town became, between 1874 and 1881, the most flourishing centre in the whole North West Territories. Its growth was accelerated in 1883 by a year-long financial boom.

Due to this progress, the citizens of Prince Albert believed their town would be chosen as the capital of the North West Territories. Unfortunately for them, they were not on the Canadian Pacific rail line. They tried by every means to offset this major handicap so that Prince Albert could become the political capital of the region.

In 1893, when the town had a population of little more than a thousand, they built a town hall costing $7000. Thus, one of the oldest municipal halls in the West was built on speculation to reflect the anticipated importance of its town.

Despite the heavy expenditure on construction of their town hall, the ratepayers of Prince Albert did not exceed their credit limit. In 1902, the return of prosperity changed their reasonable attitude. The high price of wheat brought more and more people to Prince Albert, which mushroomed. Despite this growth, the town was by then only the fourth-largest in the North West Territories.

In light of this situation, the leaders of Prince Albert poured huge amounts of capital into completing their system of urban services in order to catch up with Edmonton, Calgary and Regina. Between 1903 and 1906 they spent $77 000 on construction of a municipal generating station. But they had even greater ambitions. In 1910 another hydroelectric dam was started, at a cost of a million dollars. This project was financed entirely by the municipal corporation, although such a project should have been undertaken by a public or private corporation with better credit. By 1913 Prince Albert was $2 289 000 in debt, primarily because of the dam, which was to prove disastrous for the city. That year, construction of the dam had to be halted. A contraction of the financial market brought on bankruptcy in 1918. All the efforts of the citizens of Prince Albert were reduced to nothing. The growth in municipal needs, which became increasingly urgent, and the introduction of a full range of new services were the chief causes of Prince Albert's financial difficulties.[80] The town had overreached itself in trying to provide an electrical and street system that was too extensive for a community of its size.

The provincial government of Saskatchewan, created in 1905, retained the municipal system set up by the government of the North West Territories until 1908, when legislation was enacted to allow the incorporation of cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities.[81] The creation of village corporations served as a brake on over-hasty incorporation to town status.[82] Small Local Improvement Districts were created to cover unorganized rural regions. In 1909 these were reformed into territorial units consisting of nine townships each.[83]

The division between urban and rural municipalities was clearly marked in Saskatchewan. Cities and towns were fully autonomous, whereas rural municipalities were controlled to a certain extent by the provincial government. A simple, inexpensive civic office sufficed for the rural municipalities. The municipalities of Caron, Abbey, Macklin, and Mortlach, for example, erected such buildings. However, some localities with more limited finances preferred to rent rather than build; often the secretary-treasurer's office was in his own house.[84]

Although created at the same time as Saskatchewan, Alberta took longer to introduce a form of municipal government. In fact, Alberta did not have a department of municipal affairs until 1912. After that followed legislation governing the incorporation of cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities. The predominantly agricultural nature of the province probably prevented the spontaneous appearance of cities and towns, especially after the introduction of regulations for village incorporation.

As in Saskatchewan, the 1902 land boom greatly affected the behaviour of Albertans. With the increase in their incomes, city dwellers did not hesitate to commit themselves to ambitious programs of public works. In Calgary the wave of prosperity had more impact than elsewhere. In 1907 construction was begun on a city hall that was supposed to cost $142 124; by 1909 the cost had risen to $168 000; in the end it cost $300 000, as the specifications were constantly revised (Figure 11). Despite this considerable expenditure for such a young city, the space needs had been underestimated. By 1913, just two years after completion of construction, the municipal corporation had to lease additional office space.[85]

Urban growth, spurred by local economic prosperity, caused a spiralling rise in the expenditures of cities and towns in the West. In addition to having to keep pace with their growth, they wanted to catch up with the eastern cities (Figure 12) by offering all the municipal services (streets, water, electricity, and so on) available in Toronto and Montreal. Since the revenues of Saskatchewan and Alberta urban centres were continually rising, municipal officials believed their prosperity would never end. Some indulged in lavish spending, which often included the construction of a monumental town hall, as in Arcola (1905-6), Battleford (1911-12), Qu'Appelle (1905), Rosthern (1907) and Wolseley (1906), all in Saskatchewan, and Medicine Hat (1906), Alberta. They financed these projects with loans based on hopes, not on available assets. A Royal Commission made the following observation:

> These institutions should have responded not only to the needs of the hour, but also to those in a more prosperous future. They believed it was unnecessary to wait until there were enough current funds to help cover costs before taking on the works. In 1913, the debt owed per capita for the erection of public buildings, institutions and roads in the western provinces, was four and a half times greater than that in the eastern provinces.[86]

The land boom was brought to an end by the fall in the price of wheat, which plunged several Saskatchewan and Alberta municipalities into financial distress.

In these two provinces real-property taxes were the main source of municipal revenue.[87] As a result of the high price of wheat, land values had appreciated and those revenues rose dramatically. More and more people wanted to settle on farms and grow wheat, and this increased land prices disproportionately. When the wheat slump occurred, the demand for land fell, and this had a direct effect on municipal revenues, as the table (opposite page) indicates.

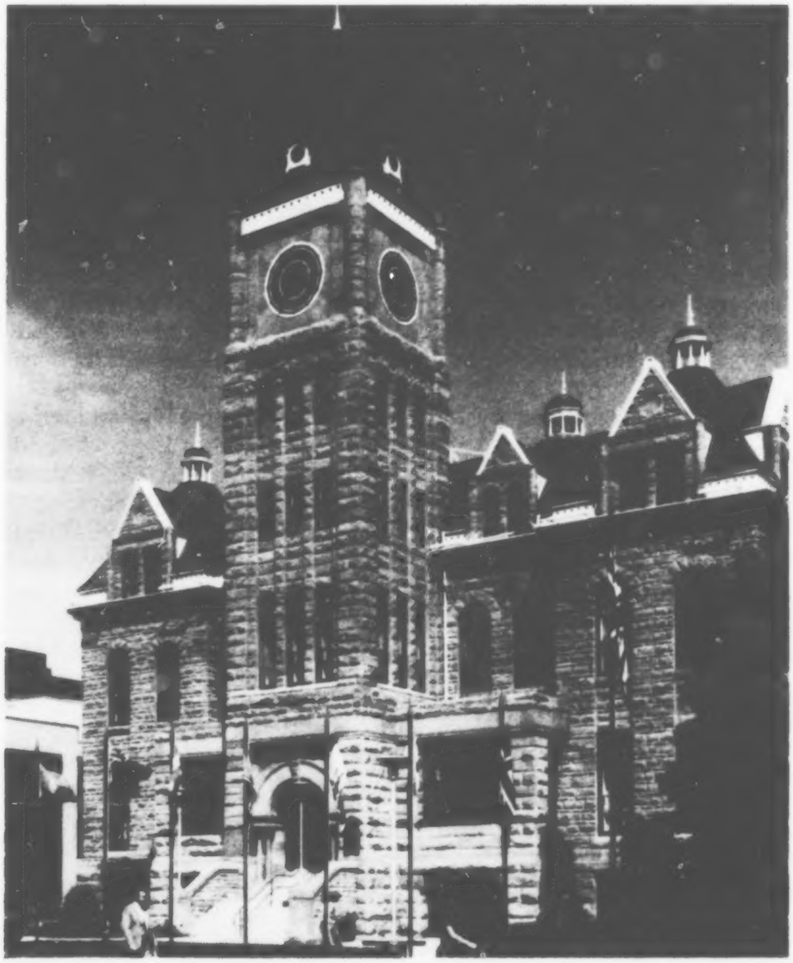


Figure 11. Calgary City Hall, built between 1907 and 1911; William M Dodd, architect. Nothing was left to chance and no expense was spared in its construction, but ironically the building was not able to accommodate all the municipal services when it was completed. (Shawn Mackenzie, Visual Communications and Technological Development Division, Environment — Parks)

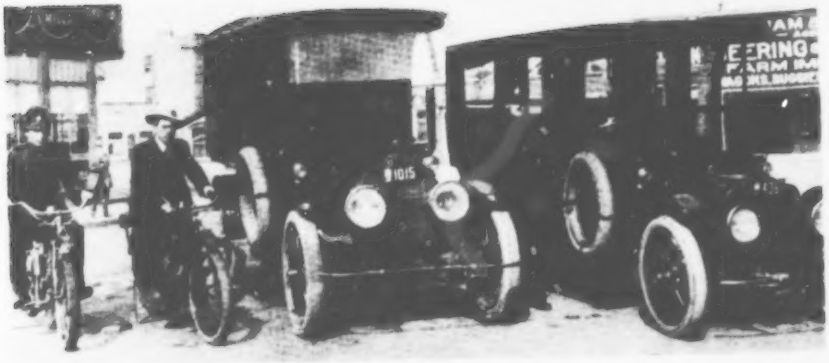


Figure 12. "The Law," Edmonton, 1913. The streets were not yet paved, but, as was proper, the municipal corporation established a motorized police force — although it seems to have been a small one. (Public Archives of Canada)

Land Assessments of Selected Western Municipalities, 1914 and 1917

	Assessment ($000 000 000) 1914	1917
Regina	82	47
Saskatoon	54	34
Moose Jaw	35	20
Prince Albert	28	12
North Battleford	9	6
Swift Current	14	9
Weyburn	10	7
Vancouver	150	140
Victoria	89	46
Edmonton	209	88
Calgary	120	65
Winnipeg	199	162

Source: *Taxes, Tariffs, & Subsidies: A History of Canadian Fiscal Development* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1955), pp. 180-1.

The table also shows that mainly Alberta and Saskatchewan cities and towns were affected by this slump. For example, Edmonton lost more than half its revenues. A number of towns declared bankruptcy, while the rest had to cut back their expenditures considerably. Henceforth, less money would be spent on the construction of town halls (Figure 13), and towns would settle for less elaborate buildings. However, towns that had already acquired civic halls were able to keep them.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Very early in the history of British Columbia the colonial and (in 1871) provincial governments were favourable to the introduction of municipal government that would relieve them of their local responsibilities. As early as 1865 a "Boroughs Ordinance" empowered the governor to grant municipal incorporation to any locality that applied for it.[88] Follow-

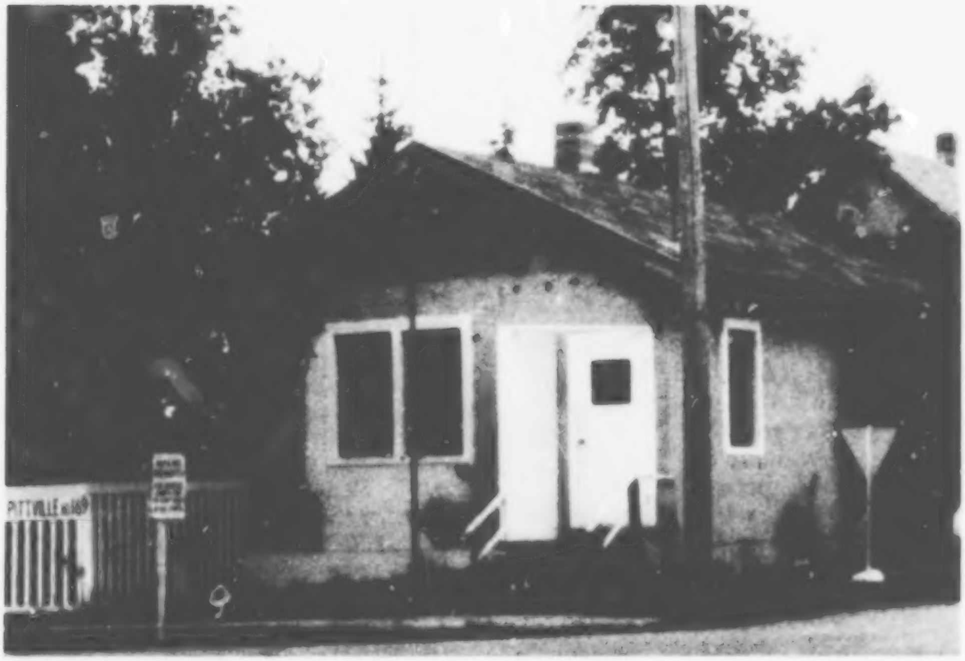


Figure 13. Town hall, Hazlet, Sask., built 1929; designer unknown. A typical western municipal building. (Saskatchewan Culture and Youth)

ing the decline in population which accompanied the drop in gold mining, no such application was presented to the governor.[89]

In 1872 the government of the newly created province of British Columbia passed an act and regulations governing municipal incorporation and the election, jurisdiction and taxing powers of councils. This legislation was primarily intended to make a distinction between urban and rural communities.[90] Henceforth, any district less than ten square miles in area and containing at least 30 male residents could be incorporated on receipt of a petition signed by at least two-thirds of the eligible voters.

In 1896 these requirements were amended by the Municipal Incorporation Act. From then on an urban municipality had to contain at least a 100 adult British males in an area not exceeding 2000 acres, while a rural municipality needed only 30 adult British males, with no geographic requirement.[91] Nowhere else in Canada had a government granted so soon and so readily the right to incorporate any territory. It might even be possible to believe that the provincial government was abandoning all its prerogatives in the area of local affairs to the municipalities.

Even with such a liberal policy the number of municipal corporations grew slowly. In 1874 the province had only three cities and five rural districts. By 1896 there were eight cities and 17 rural districts, to which six cities were added between 1897 and 1899. Between 1900 and 1911 these numbers rose to 20 and 27 respectively. Finally, in 1930, there were 33 cities, 28 rural districts and 14 villages.[92] In 1921 a new municipal level, the village, was created in order to alleviate provincial responsibility for local services. The powers of village corporations were, however, very limited – they could borrow only for water and sewage systems.

Because of the ease with which a territory could be incorporated, municipalities varied considerably in size. Generally, communities incorporated in order to exercise closer control over the local improvements that they wished to undertake. These improvements were financed mostly out of real-property taxes,[93] while poorer municipalities received grants. On the whole, Victoria viewed the granting of municipal government as benefiting both the provincial government, which saved money on local improvements, and the municipalities, which considered themselves capable of assuming such costs.

Although the government of British Columbia had been liberal in granting municipal government, it was somewhat niggardly in endowing the new corporations with resources. The Municipal Act of 1872, for example, limited property taxes to one per cent of assessed property value and prohibited councillors from borrowing more than the total tax revenue for the current year. Furthermore, all loans had to be approved by a majority of the ratepayers.[94] With such restrictions, municipal corporations were not free to exercise their full autonomy. Thus the provincial legislature in Victoria distrusted its municipalities as much as the governments of the eastern provinces did theirs.

This policy, one suspects, discouraged construction of town halls in

British Columbia (Figure 14).[95] Aldermen were often reluctant to build, preferring instead to rent premises. Gradually this situation changed. The economic climate of British Columbia, where growth was slow and uneven, made municipal government both expensive and inefficient. Numerous legislative amendments were passed to remedy this problem by altering the financial powers of municipalities.

Finally, the 1880 Act to Enable Municipalities to Purchase Real Estate for Corporate Purposes[96] allowed municipal councils to receive as a gift, purchase or even construct buildings to be used as town halls. The following year councillors were permitted to borrow up to ten per cent of the assessed real-estate value of their municipality to finance the purchase

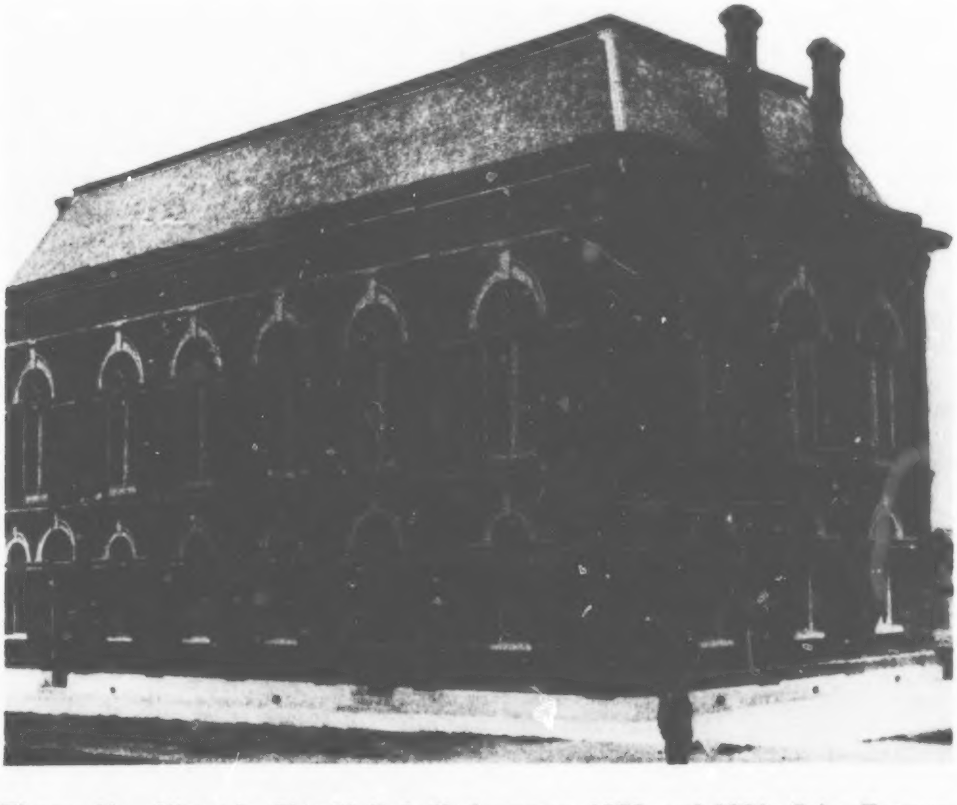


Figure 14. Victoria City Hall, built between 1878 and 1891; John Teague, architect. Because of adverse public opinion, the Victoria municipal council had to build its city hall in stages. The first part (above), built in 1878, formed a wing of the building, completed in 1891. (Provincial Archives of British Columbia)

or construction of town halls, sewers and waterworks. In 1886 the credit limit was raised to 20 per cent.

Although these amendments increased the financial capabilities of municipalities, their resources were still not adequate to encourage ratepayers to build impressive town halls. Even Vancouver, in 1886, had difficulty paying for its city hall, modest as it was:

> In 1886, the newly established City of Vancouver awarded the contract for a utilitarian frame city hall for the sum of $1,280. When the city was unable to pay the sum from current assets upon the building's completion, the contractor blocked the council from occupying until full payment was received, two months later.[97]

After this unfortunate experience, the ratepayers were reluctant for a long time to build a new city hall. Despite the city's phenomenal growth, when the frame building constructed in 1886 became too small, the council decided to erect (1889) a brick market building and to gradually move its offices into it until it was fully occupied (1898).[98] This situation lasted until the move in 1936 to the present city hall.

Until about 1930 the prevailing economic conditions throughout the province were slow growth in rural communities and recession in cities and towns, especially in the interior. Most municipalities, struggling with financial difficulties, had no money to spend on the construction of buildings. The few municipal halls built at that time were more a reflection of the current economic situation than of hopes for potential growth, unlike what had so often been the case in Saskatchewan and Alberta.[99] It was only with the increase in municipal powers, particularly with regard to policing and education, that local governments had the opportunity to build or purchase municipal halls in British Columbia. Thus, between 1898 and 1915, at least 33 municipalities erected or purchased a town hall.[100] It should be noted, however, that the great majority of these buildings were modest.

A fair degree of prudence was exhibited in public spending during this period of municipal-hall acquisition. For example, the Trail town council decided not to spend a single dollar without knowing its destination.[101] Consequently these aldermen held their meetings in a building that served as a jail, store, funeral parlour and Masonic lodge, until 1928, when the town was able to afford to build a civic hall.[102] Several other municipal corporations had to do likewise (Figure 15).

One of the most important features of the socioeconomic development of British Columbia was the uneven geographic distribution of the province's growth centres. This disparity was accentuated during the First World War. The Kootenay-Boundary area lost some of its population to the cities and towns in the southeast, causing the disappearance of a number of its municipalities. This internal migration was the main cause of the financial difficulties of several municipalities in the interior. Municipal corporations even went as far as to seize properties for default on tax payments. The situation was so bad that in 1918 Kamloops civic officials waived their salaries in order to balance the municipal budget.[103] Needless to say, it was usually out of the question for such towns to build civic halls.

Before 1930 the economic climate in British Columbia was seldom favourable for the construction of municipal buildings. Although the provincial government had shown itself quite liberal in principle, in practice it was some time before municipal government was fully functioning, owing to the shortage of resources. In these circumstances the idea of building a town hall was seldom raised. With the exception of the more prosperous period from 1898 to 1914, very few town halls were built before 1930. The stock-market crash of 1929 and the Second World War further delayed such initiatives.

The financial situation of British Columbia improved greatly after the Second World War. Between 1944 and 1962, with the boom in housing construction, municipal revenues increased sevenfold,[104] and they have continued to rise ever since. Thanks to this increase in revenues, communities were able to spend large sums on renovating or even replacing their municipal halls (Figure 16). Civic buildings erected in a period of

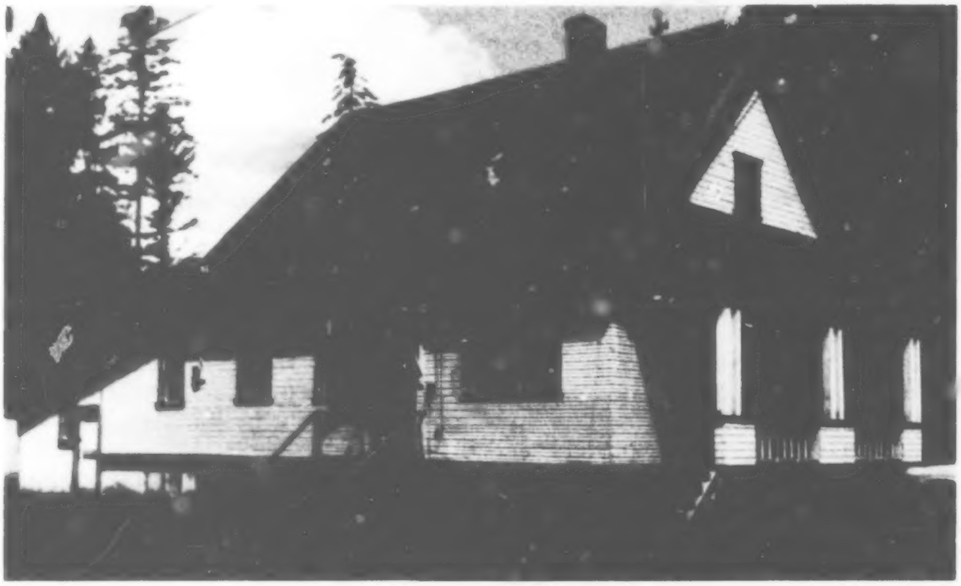


Figure 15. Municipal hall, Silverton, B.C., built c.a 1910; designer unknown. This building, which was originally the village jail, housed the municipal offices. It was converted into a town hall in 1929. In their early days, a number of Canadian towns had to house their administration in all kinds of buildings, including banks, schools and jails. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

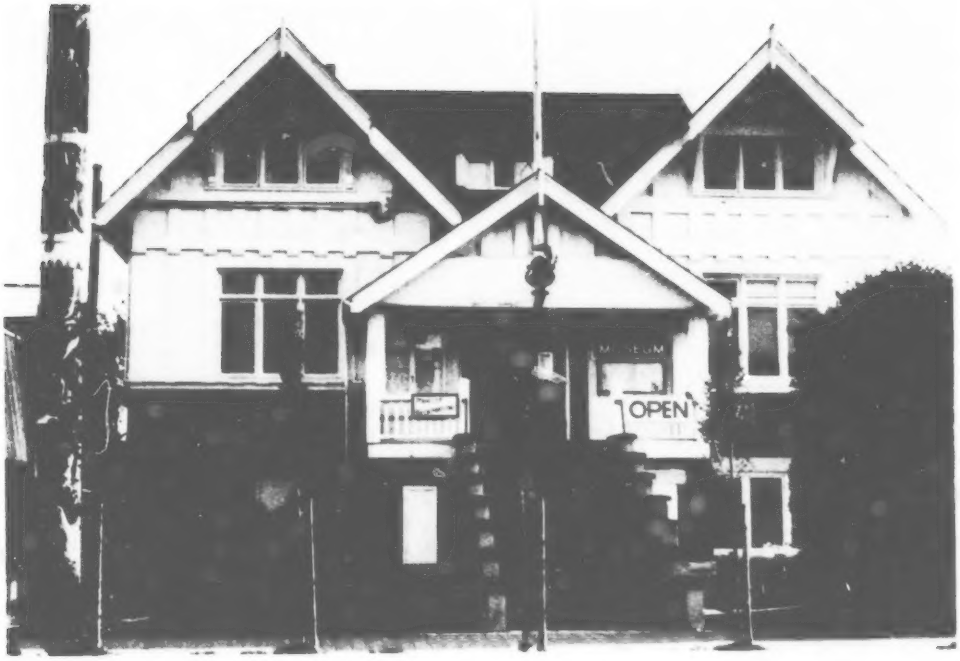


Figure 16. Former town hall, Delta, B.C., built 1912; A. Campbell Hope, architect. As a result of the town's growth the municipal administration was able to move to a new town hall more in keeping with its new financial situation. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, G.E. Mills)

austerity were abandoned when they no longer fit the community's new image (Surrey, for example, abandoned two city halls). Municipalities could do such things without alienating their ratepayers, since they now had sufficient resources.

CONCLUSION

In Canada, municipal institutions were long mistrusted by the higher levels of government, despite all the public services they provided. Nevertheless, municipal government managed to take root and develop according to the particular economic climate in each province. Everywhere, municipalities were given only limited powers and resources. Consequently each city or town had only meagre funds with which to build a town hall.

A recent report indicates that it is very difficult to compare the revenues of Canadian municipal corporations. Since property values vary widely from one place to another, the revenues of each municipal council, which are derived mainly from real-property taxes, differ correspondingly. These variances in the revenues of Canadian cities and towns can be explained by the law of supply and demand: in a region where economic growth is slow, property values are lower.[105] The census of 1931 shows similar variations from one province to another. The average property value for cities and towns in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the four western provinces was between $1000 and $2000, whereas in Ontario it was between $4000 and $5000 – roughly $1000 higher than in Quebec.[106] Thus in 1931 the median property value varied by a ratio of one to four across Canada.

Just as municipal revenues varied from province to province, so did community projects. According to Kenneth Buckley, the direct expenditures by the various levels of government in Ontario were evenly shared at the start of the 20th century between the construction of roads and public buildings. In British Columbia and the Maritimes roads took precedence, whereas in the western provinces twice as much was spent on public buildings as on roads.[107] In Quebec one seems to have been neglected as much as the other.

This difference in the resources and social priorities of municipal councils is the reason for the great variety that is found in the architecture of civic halls across the country. Since there was no legal requirement to construct such a building, the matter was left to the discretion of the councillors. They alone decided whether they could afford such an expense; and, if they could, only the municipal corporation (except in the case of the Municipal Loan Fund in Ontario) assumed the cost of the undertaking. Accordingly, town halls reflected to a certain extent the financial capabilities of the town and the aspirations of its citizens.

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44 The concentration of the Quebec population in the Montreal area resulted in an uneven distribution of municipal revenues which persists to this day. Thus "446 municipalities in the Montreal area, which account for 57.4 per cent of the population of the province, receive 70.8 per cent of total municipal revenues" (Québec: Ministère de l'Industrie et du Tourisme, Bureau de la Statistique, *Annuaire du Québec 1977-78* [N.p.: Éditeur du Québec, 1978], p. 1332).

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76 J. Harvey Perry, Taxes, Tariffs, p. 131.

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> Riches have wings; so has the proposed City Hall, as it would appear from a proposition moved at the Council Chamber last Wednesday evening to build one wing of that elaborate, expansive

and altogether in-advance-of-the-time structure.

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98 This combination of functions made for quite a lively scene:

> The ground floor of the building was given over to the sale of poultry and farm produce, with cattle, swine and horses accommodated under a covered area in the adjacent lane. The second floor, known as City Hall Theatre, was initially allocated for public meetings, concerts and political rallies. Gradually, however, the city council began moving its operation over from the crowded quarters of its 1886 building. In the words of a local writer, "the combined ambience of politics and pig fights was irresistible to the aldermen, who moved into the second floor and gradually evicted the other livestock, till by 1898 they were in complete possession of this City Hall."

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V. "FOR GENERATIONS TO COME": THE TOWN HALL AS A SYMBOL OF COMMUNITY

Dana Johnson

INTRODUCTION

Buildings are an intrinsic, indeed necessary part of most human activities. We live and work in buildings, we learn and worship in them, and we carry out a multitude of tasks within their walls. Because of their pervasive presence we often take these structures more or less for granted. Yet their very pervasiveness makes buildings an important aspect of our cultural history.

We see buildings in two quite distinct ways. Primarily, and most familiar to us, they accommodate our public, religious, commercial and domestic activities. Such structures are often, though not invariably, designed for a specific and specialized use. For this reason utilitarian function has been a central element in this study. Yet buildings function at other levels as well. They possess a representational quality, an ability to express in concrete forms the values and aspirations of those who were involved in their construction. They can reflect the social norms, economic status and cultural aspirations of their architects and their builders, their owners and their inhabitants. We often take this representational aspect of a building as a given, ignoring the strong symbolic impact that our surroundings have upon us. Yet this factor often ranks with usage in determining the scale, siting, cost and style of a structure. As one author has noted, "Buildings and their groupings and their assemblages are more than the shelter of our activities; they represent us beyond our life, they interpret us to posterity, and they illustrate our past to us."[1]

In domestic or private design the values that a building presents are individual and personal. The architectural historian seeks these values by looking at trends in function, in style and in the arrangement of space in many structures of a single type. Public architecture, however, is different. Each structure attempts to illustrate the commonly held values of the collectivity. This potential – whether realized or not – of representing large numbers of people explains why the architectural historian has habitually focused on public buildings as artifacts of cultural history. As one historian has noted, such buildings "reflect the intelligence and enterprise, the wealth and the culture of a people."[2]

Few buildings represent their communities as eloquently as the town hall. In many parts of Europe the town hall emerged as a prominent symbol because the municipality itself has possessed a quasi-independent status for part of its existence. Historically cities represented a strong challenge to the authority of both feudal institutions and, later, centralized monarchies; cities also competed with each other for wealth and commercial dominance. As a result of this historical development many European civic buildings were designed to be more than mere meeting places. They took on symbolic and ceremonial functions, embodying the municipality's independence from external authority, its commercial and cultural prominence, its power and prestige. In spite of the advance of time, and greatly changed political circumstances, the town hall of the 19th and 20th centuries in North America continued to echo these historical roots. The building type even imitated mediaeval forms: it is a sign of the enduring quality of symbolism that long after the functional need for a tower had passed, many town halls included this now-decorative element.

As a result of this historical evolution, then, some of Europe's best known and most influential architectural monuments are town halls. Though they vary widely in location, scale, period, style and even function, these buildings as a type represent a deeply felt desire to articulate, in a monumental architectural form, the shared pride in the achievements of the municipality, a faith in its future prosperity and importance, and a commitment to its corporate social and economic aspirations.[3]

Canada has not enjoyed a similar historical development. From its founding until comparatively recent times, large urban units have not played a central role in the life of the majority of Canadians. Certainly our towns and cities have always been the focus of economic and cultural activity; adherents of the metropolitan hypothesis of Canadian historical development have described, at great length, the important role that urban places have played in this country's expansion. Without doubting this central role it is perhaps instructive to note that Canadians have traditionally possessed a rather ambivalent attitude towards urban places. Furthermore, the life experience of a majority of Canadians has, until recently, been dominated by rural, rather than urban, places and themes. Our art, our literature, our mythology about ourselves as Canadians – each of these aspects reflects a dominance of rural over urban themes and motifs.[4]

Cultural traditions, then, seem to contrast with historical experience with regard to the development of the town hall as a building type. Canadians have fallen heir to a European tradition of monumentality in civic buildings; at the same time, the history of the country shows a strong anti-urban bias. It is an indication of the potency of tradition that town halls are, our survey suggests, an important building type in Canada. We count several fine municipal buildings among our architectural treasures. The civic buildings of Montreal, Kingston, Cobourg, Toronto, Halifax, Calgary and Victoria – to name only a few leading examples – have rightly attracted the attention of architectural historians for the quality of their design, their prominence within the urban fabric, and the scale and quality of their execution. But it was not our largest cities alone that erected these major urban monuments. Our survey suggests that the strong sense of identity that led to the construction of these fine city halls was active (albeit on a reduced scale) in many smaller centres across the country. Occasionally, as was the case in the Ontario town of Petrolia, the result was a magnificent structure which ranks among the most elaborate examples of the building type. Much more often, they were smaller in scale and simpler in articulation – though they remained notable within their individual local context. While Canadians seem to feel a powerful urge to erect municipal buildings of some type (Fig. 1), it is equally evident that many towns and cities felt little need for a grandiose architectural symbol. Indeed, no town hall existed for at least part of the life of many incorporated centres. The history of the town hall as a symbolic building is, therefore, a complex one, and the explanations for such diversity vary from region to region, from one municipality to another, and even for one

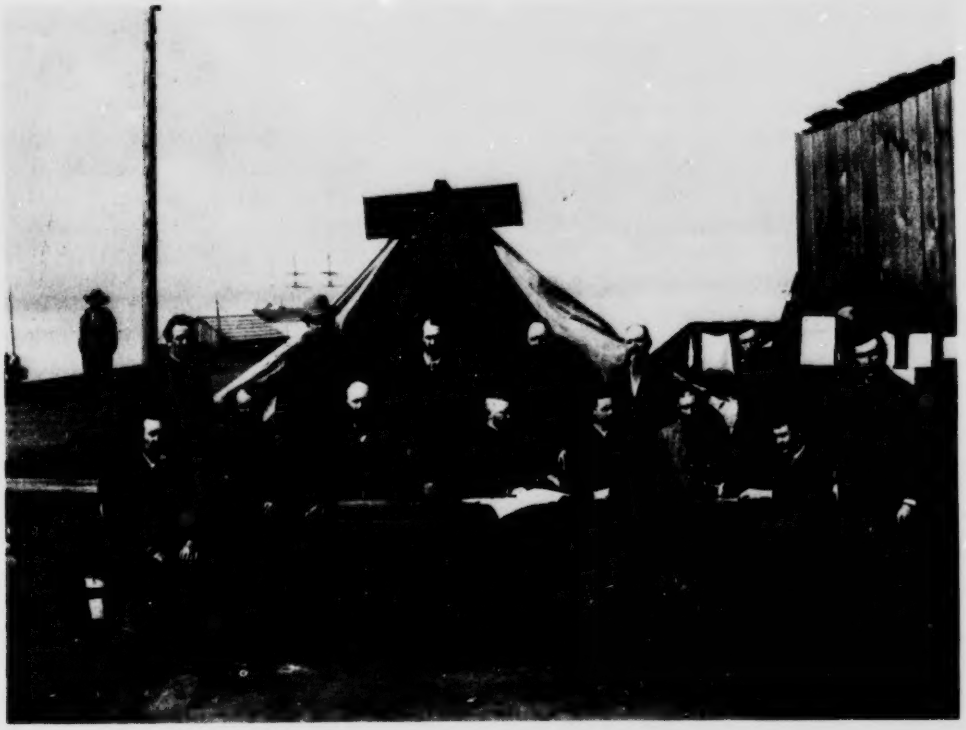

Figure 1. "City Hall," Vancouver. Tradition and functional need were (sometimes competing) forces in the development of the town hall as a building type in Canada. How expressive of both these elements the "City Hall" in Vancouver in 1886 was! The city was in the midst of its first great building boom when, in a mere 20 minutes, the city was burned to the ground on 13 July 1886. Though the municipality had not yet built a city hall, the need for some administrative space led to the erection of a "City Hall" in a tent which was superseded, before the onset of winter, by a frame building of considerably more ambitious proportions. Even in the midst of tragedy, council needed a place to meet and the city needed a place to call its civic centre. (Vancouver City Archives)

municipality over time. Yet this very complexity justifies the study of the town hall as a building type, for whatever route was chosen by a municipality, the resulting structure may be seen as reflecting the needs, resources and aspirations of the community that carried the project forward.

The history of urbanization, and the study of the dynamics behind municipal activities in Canada, are yet in their infancy. Lacking a general theory to explain the form and functions of municipalities, one is hard-pressed to contend with such a complicated and paradoxical situation. Many negative factors historically have inhibited the construction of town halls; yet our survey has revealed many such structures, and their quality and variety are astonishing. The number and variety of buildings would be all the greater if our survey had included all town halls, rather than simply surviving examples, for several of the country's finest buildings have succumbed to the need for even more modern monuments. Even so, the buildings that remain are an extraordinarily rich group of structures, for which some general explanation must be attempted.

Tradition has already been suggested as one possible reason for the fine monumental town halls in our survey. Another is clearly the growing institutional needs of cities for space to house a burgeoning bureaucracy. Many of the smaller-scale, open-hall buildings also exist largely for utilitarian reasons. Yet neither tradition nor functional requirements can explain the perplexing variety of approaches to the problem of housing municipal governments. One possible explanation may be posited. This diversity of approach may derive from widely varying reactions to the implications of the idea of "progress."[5] Generally, Canadian town halls were constructed during a period in western history when the idea of "progress," variously defined, was sweeping the North Atlantic world. Canadians were no less seized of the idea than their fellows in either the United States or Great Britain. Yet the concept of "progress" was particularly flexible, and capable of widely divergent interpretations and implications. Many municipalities translated "progress" into grandiose architectural terms and therefore expressed their civic pride in elaborate monumental town halls. These buildings were physical embodiments of the community's commitment to economic and social progress; they expressed the dynamic self-confidence of the ruling élite, and through them, of the populace generally.

Other municipalities, no less committed to the idea of "progress" in theoretical terms, interpreted that commitment in quite different ways. Given that a city's financial resources were limited, opponents of a monumental municipal building argued that large expenditures on grand city halls constituted a gross misallocation of civic funds. Since cities were restricted either by law or by the size of their financial base in the resources they could muster for projects of civic improvement, urban leaders had to set their priorities with prudence and marshall their limited funds with care. To advocates of this point of view, an elaborate town hall was a gross abuse of the faith placed in political leaders by the citizenry, for costly municipal buildings were an investment without tangible returns or apparent benefits in terms of increased tax revenues. The concept of prestige or reputation was of lesser importance than the provision of much-needed services such as waterworks, paved streets and sidewalks. A municipality obtained its standing by the level of fiscal responsibility with which it achieved a high level of economic well-being for its citizenry. True "progress" was not achieved through the construction of a monumental town hall, but rather through the expenditure of civic funds on projects that brought immediate and tangible returns.[6]

These two positions, of course, represent ideal types; no municipality in the country raised the question of constructing a town hall without bringing both points of view into the public arena, in varying levels of intensity and to varying degrees. In one sense, Canadians were not unique in facing this choice; as one European architectural historian has noted, "this struggle between pomp and circumstance on the one hand, and the unpretentious and efficient on the other, is the cause of never-ending controversy."[7] What seems striking in the Canadian case is the fact that two such divergent attitudes towards a single building type should apparently emerge from a common source, the acceptance of the idea of "progress."

19TH-CENTURY TOWN HALLS

Canada's earliest municipal buildings demonstrate, in their symbolic associations, the profound influence of British architectural traditions on the colonial mind. Canada's municipal history begins in the Maritime provinces; Saint John, New Brunswick, was the country's first incorporated municipality becoming a city in 1784. Yet like much longer established (but unincorporated) cities in Quebec, Saint John had no functional need for a municipal headquarters; it chose instead cramped and unappealing facilities in the city market, constructed in 1785. A competition was held in 1840 for a city hall in St. John's, Newfoundland, but it was not constructed until 1846, by which time the market facility had completely squeezed out the city hall function.[8] It was left to the central Canadian town of Kingston and the cities of Toronto and Montreal to initiate the first phase of town hall construction in Canada.

In the case of both Kingston and Montreal, the intentions of their respective governments are clear: each intended to build a monumental town hall which would, in its design, scale and siting, act as a symbol of the power, prestige and aggressive self-confidence of the corporation. In both cases, British-trained architects won civically sponsored design competitions with proposals purposively modelled on Britain's greatest example of 18th-century public architecture, Sir William Chambers' Somerset House in London. Both buildings survive, though Montreal's Bonsecours Market has lost its impressive harbourside siting; each continues to play the strongly representational role its architect intended it to perform.

Constructed between 1843 and 1844, Kingston's city hall is this country's oldest surviving example of an urban municipal building (Fig. 2). The history of its planning and construction illustrates the strong symbolic and representational role the building was to assume. Late in 1840 the town council initiated plans for a new town hall. Under the dynamic leadership of the mayor, John Counter, and flush with the optimism engendered by the town's choice, early in 1841, as the capital of the province of Canada, council moved in stages from a relatively modest proposal by local architects to what some regarded as the largest municipal building in North America. Officials finally mounted the colony's first international architectural competition, the specifications of which required an enormous T-shaped structure of cut stone on a prominent harbourside lot. The building's two main rooms were to measure 100 by 50 feet, the cost to be limited to the remarkable sum of £10 000.

In many senses Kingston's decision was quite astonishing, for the town had a population of barely 6000. Its historical raison d'être, the transhipment of goods, was slowly but surely disappearing in the face of new navigation technology. Since its well-being was closely related to its status as capital, its destiny depended upon the always-shifting vagaries of politics. But both the town's political leadership and its citizenry were confident that Kingston's choice as capital was both permanent and a harbinger of greater things. It was a sign of this self-assurance (some regarded it as nothing short of madness) that council proceeded to accept the plans of Chief Architect George Browne, for a building that brilliantly represented their unbridled faith in the future.

Browne's winning proposal skillfully wedded this confidence to the leading historical traditions of British architecture. By modelling his design on Britain's Somerset House, Browne was able to link Kingston's progressive vision with the dominant trends in civic design. Kingstonians and visitors alike were enchanted by the result; Sir Richard Bonnycastle, who toured most of North America, regarded it as "the finest edifice of the kind on the continent of America." Though a few voices were raised in protest, council insisted on numerous changes in the original concept, each designed to increase the monumental impact of the building on the viewer. The cost eventually escalated to a staggering £28 000, more than half the assessed value of all the property in the town, but Kingstonians were not to be denied a town hall that so brilliantly demonstrated their aspirations and exuberant self-confidence.[9]

Alas, this dream was to be rudely shattered. Before the town hall had even been opened, the provincial government had removed to Montreal, untempted by the offer of the incomplete civic building as a house of parliament. Kingston was left with a crushing burden of debt for a town

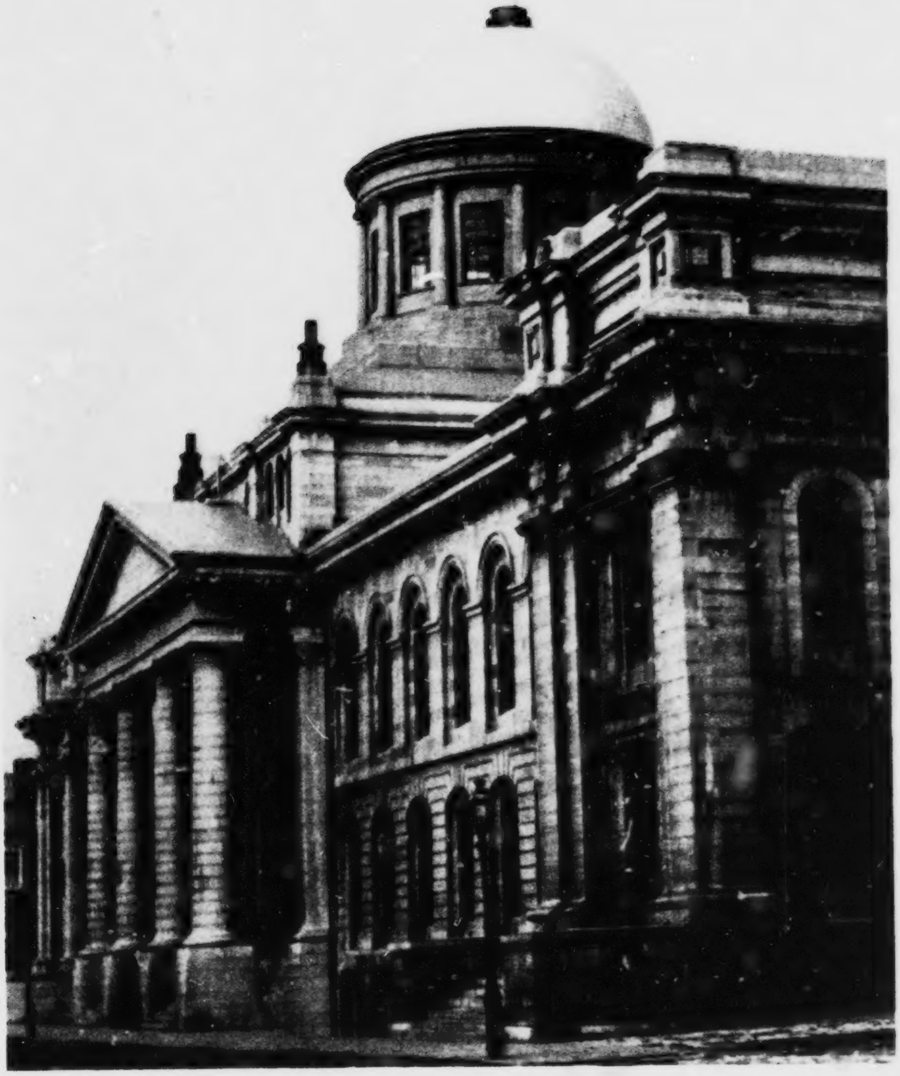

Figure 2. Kingston City Hall; constructed between 1843 and 1844; George Browne, architect. Kingston's city hall is the oldest surviving urban example in our study; it was designated as a site of national architectural and historical significance in 1959. Browne's design was prepared for a town of vaunting ambitions; it was the largest municipal building in British North America, and some said, the largest in North America. (Public Archives Canada)

hall whose very existence bespoke a multitude of ironies. But the civic spirit that motivated the town council was shared by numerous other communities across the country, and the failure of Kingston's dream of greatness did not deter other towns and cities from following its lead in proposing a fine monumental town hall. Though few could challenge it in either scale or cost, the Kingston building became an influential prototype. Its use of the Neoclassical style placed it squarely in the evolving pattern of public design in British North America. More importantly, the town council was able to achieve a truly monumental structure by the simple expedient of massing a wide variety of functions within a single building. In its multifunctionalism, Kingston's town hall set the standard for many of Canada's 19th-century municipal buildings. Of even greater importance, Kingston's town hall was the first in a series of civic structures whose purpose went well beyond the mere functional requirements of housing the then-limited town government. Rather, it functioned as the physical embodiment of civic aspirations, and represented and fostered a sense of community unity. Within its walls Kingstonians shopped for all of their groceries, did their banking, met with professional people, and were served by several public and private agencies like the post office and a hotel. They determined their political futures together in meetings where leading town politicians, such as Sir John A. Macdonald and Oliver Mowat, spoke of local and provincial affairs. They gathered for social events such as plays, dances and "conversationes" in the "town hall," the large meeting space which was, during the 19th century, the essence of most civic headquarters. Indeed, these social, political and religious gatherings were designed to foster the kind of community spirit the municipality was meant to provide, and the town hall was meant to represent.

This final point deserves some elaboration, for it provides a crucial link between the symbolic and utilitarian functions of the town hall as a building type. Although modern civic buildings consist largely of administrative offices, earlier municipal structures were dominated by two functions we now regard as noncivic: the provision of public meeting space and of market facilities. Kingston's town hall is the earliest surviving example of this trend. This choice of functions reflects a fundamentally different concept of the proper role of 19th-century municipal government in the life of the individual than we are used to today. While the responsibilities of town and city governments increased throughout the 19th century, bureaucracies were generally small and their responsibilities were limited to supervising the activities of groups and individuals, rather than the provision of extensive and expensive services. In allocating large amounts of space to a meeting hall and a market, a municipality was making a statement about civic priorities and defining the proper role of local governments in the life of the community. By providing a meeting hall, the municipality attempted both to foster a sense of community identity and embody that identity in an architectural symbol. The "town hall" was a social space where differences of class, ethnicity or religion – which normally divided the city into competing groups – could be ignored or papered over. The town hall advertised and engendered a sense of community solidarity; ideal and symbol were thereby fused in a single structure. The market function, on the other hand, was a more prosaic element. Its inclusion signified that the maintenance of publicly approved standards of quality in both meats and vegetables, and the sale of these products in clean and central quarters, were of vital public concern. Since the municipality stood as both the embodiment of the community and the guardian of its interests, the municipal building in the 19th century often consisted of both a market and a "town hall."

Though Kingston's was the first in a series of monumental town halls, such structures were not, of course, limited to urban Ontario. Like Kingston's town hall, which was begun a year earlier, Montreal's first municipal building, Bonsecours Market, was also constructed primarily as a market in function and a civic symbol in its design. Both structures were located on prominent waterfront sites, commanding the harbours which were the raisons d'être of their respective municipalities; both were based, in compositional terms, on Chambers' Somerset House in London. Bonsecours Market was designed by William Footner who, like Browne, had grown up and apprenticed in Dublin, where Chambers' Classical Revival approach was exceedingly influential. The market was designed by Footner as a purposive attempt to emulate European, particularly British, models of civic design; it was to be a physical representation, in the European manner, of the culture and progress of an emerging metropolis. The architect was explicit in justifying the derivative quality of his proposal. Writing to the Building Committee, Footner noted that Paris took "advantage of the banks of the Seine for some of the noblest architectural specimens" the city possessed, while London's waterfront was graced by monuments such as Somerset House, the Customs House, Hungerford Market and the Houses of Parliament. Other European cities, he noted, also employed impressive waterfront sites for major public buildings. Montreal, too, should follow the lead of the world's greatest cities, and construct a monumental structure on their superb, extended location along the river. This need for a strong civic symbol, he argued, "at once explains why the river front of the market must be made more imposing, in order to produce effects and impress the traveller with a commensurate idea of the refinement and the importance of the growing city of Montreal."[10] The result (Fig. 3) fully lived up to Footner's promises. Though the development of both the harbour and the Old City of Montreal has robbed it of much of its visual impact, Bonsecours Market dominated the river approach to the city throughout the 19th century. For many visitors, the market was their introduction to the city itself. Footner's design admirably solved the problem provided by a long but shallow lot; he provided an impressive facade over 500 feet long, with the river front being more elaborate and ceremonial in architectural character than the landward facade. The interior, too, reflected an artful melding of the functional and symbolic; its large open spaces provided ample room for both market days and for formal social and political events. The building quickly became, like Kingston's, the centre of the city's commercial and social life. Footner's hopes concerning its symbolic role were also fully realized; the market was, until the redevelopment of the harbour, the focus of photographs and drawings of Montreal from the river. The building's place in Canadian history is well known; for a short time in 1849 it housed the Parliament of Canada, and throughout the 19th century it was the scene of some of the city's most memorable civic events.[11] Though it was replaced as a city hall in 1878 by a similarly symbolic building, inspired by the

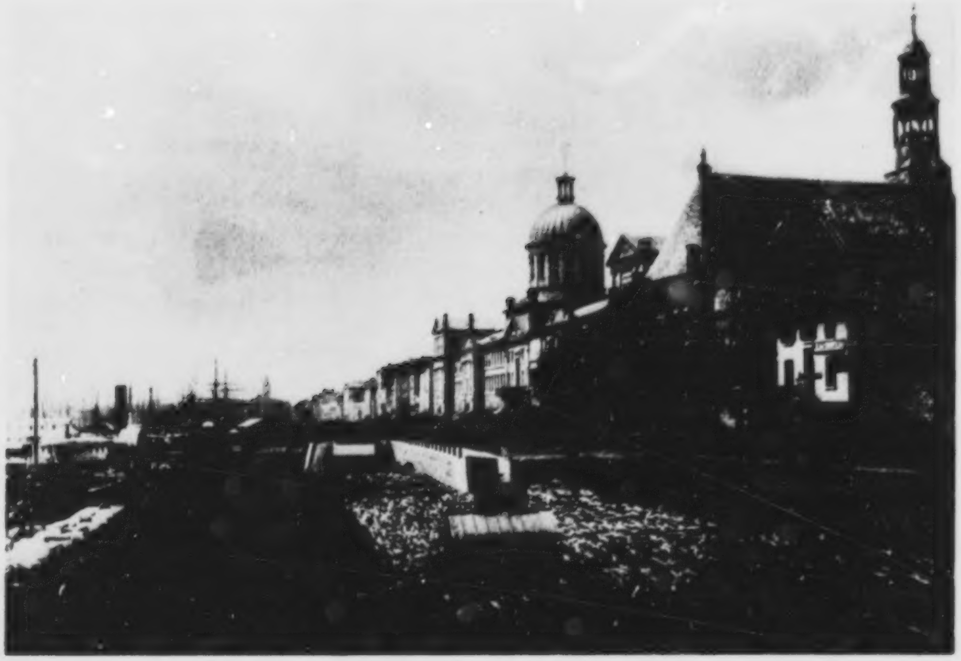

Figure 3. Bonsecours Market, Montreal; constructed between 1845 and 1852; William Footner, architect. This is the river front of Bonsecours Market. As Footner noted in his competition proposal, the river front had to be the more imposing side "in order to produce effects and impress the traveller with a commensurate idea of the refinement and the importance of the growing city of Montreal." Though its original fine siting on the harbour has disappeared as the port of Montreal has expanded, Bonsecours Market continues to be an impressive monumental municipal building. (Public Archives Canada)

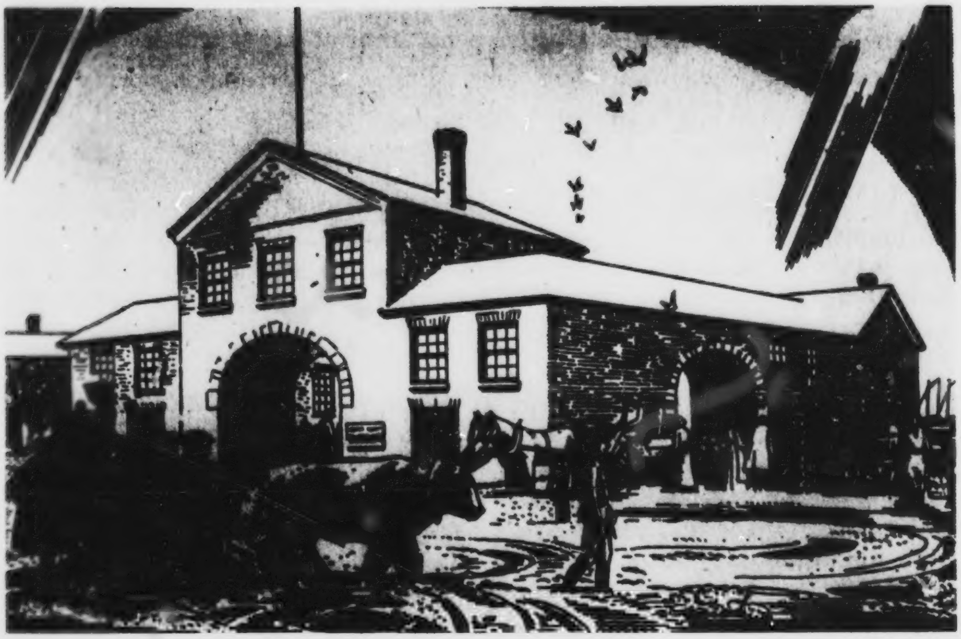

Figure 4. The central market, Toronto; constructed between 1831 and 1832; burned down 1849; James Cooper, architect. The central market became Toronto's first "town hall" when the city was incorporated in 1834. The second-storey meeting room of this simple structure housed meetings of the municipal council, while the clerk used a smaller room adjacent. These primitive facilities were replaced by a new city hall and market in 1845, and the 1831 building succumbed to Toronto's Great Fire of 1849. (City of Toronto Archives)

French masterpiece, Mansart's Château de Maisons, Bonsecours Market continued to play a central role in the civic life of Montreal.

During the early Victorian period, competition was intense among Montreal, Kingston and Toronto for pre-eminence in trade along the St. Lawrence valley. The rivalry was not limited to trade alone, however; cultural and social attainments were also a matter of pride. As a result, Toronto constructed its first city hall between 1844 and 1845. At its incorporation in 1834 the city had chosen as its municipal centre the second-floor meeting room over the central market (Fig. 4), built between 1831 and 1832 to designs by James Cooper. The decade after incorporation was a period of enormous growth for the new city and these facilities – which had never been intended for administrative use – were wholly inadequate. As Montreal and Kingston had done earlier, Toronto's political élite chose to express their confidence in the future in the form of a monumental town hall resulting from an architectural competition. Perhaps learning from the unhappy experience of Kingston, they sought to maintain their enthusiasm within reasonable bounds.

Kingston's town hall was part of an extensive building program, guided by the design genius of the architect, George Browne, and aimed at creating a conscious urban image of classicism. Similarly, Toronto's city hall of 1844-45 was an integral, if flawed, part of its architect's program of classical public architecture in that city. Designed by the British-trained Henry Bower Lane, the new civic building stood in sharp contrast to the architecturally primitive work of Cooper, even though the market was barely ten years old. It was a sign of the growing cultural sophistication of a municipality only recently emerged from a pioneer state, the building's defenders noted, that it could support and encourage the construction of a civic symbol of considerable quality, Lane's city hall (Fig. 5). Critics who pointed out the weaknesses in the architect's design did not understand the cultural limitations of new societies; the city hall was an expression of a degree of civilized taste previously unknown in the city, a sign of how far Toronto had progressed in a relatively short time.[12]

Contemporary accounts of the city hall made clear the association in the public mind between the city's social and material progress, and the existence of a monumental civic building. In laying the cornerstone of the city hall in September of 1844 Toronto's mayor, Henry Sherwood, devoted his entire speech to this subject. In what a contemporary newspaper considered a "long and interesting address" Sherwood described

> the rapid progress which Toronto has made, from the period when it became incorporated to the present time, sketching the improvements now going forward, and taking a prospective glance at what may reasonably be anticipated in the years to come.[13]

The new city hall was, Sherwood noted, a symbol both of past achievements and future expectations. By associating material progress with social advancement, and linking both with high attainments in civic design, proponents of the idea of progress in architecture raised this concept above mere materialism and capitalist acquisitiveness. Material and social progress were inextricably linked, and a fine town hall was evidence that a municipality had advanced in both spheres. The idea was seductive and compelling, the architectural expression grand and splendid.

The town halls in Kingston, Montreal and Toronto mark the beginning of a tradition of monumental, representational civic architecture in Canada. Then, however, two trends developed: many towns and cities particularly in Ontario were caught by the desire to express their municipal pride in comparatively grand architectural terms, while few places in the other British North American colonies followed suit.

The case is easiest to describe for the province of Quebec. For nearly half a century after the commencement of Bonsecours Market,

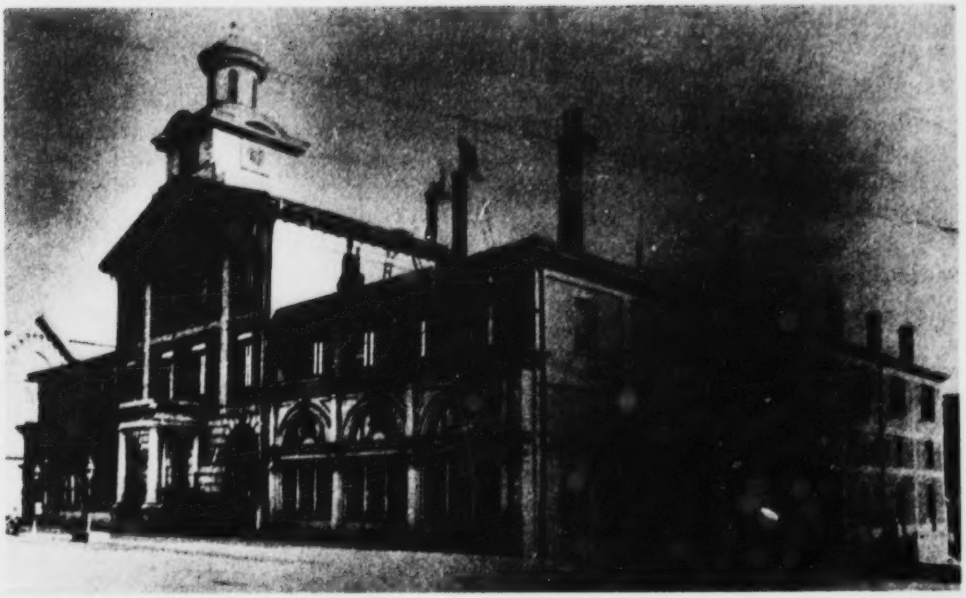

Figure 5. City hall (now the Lower St. Lawrence Market), Toronto; constructed between 1844 and 1845; Henry Bower Lane, architect. Lane's Neoclassical design was chosen by city council in preference to his Gothic Revival proposal; this decision was in keeping with the overwhelming classicism of contemporary Toronto's public buildings. The combination of town hall and market was an enduring one in Canada generally; the two functions existed, uncomfortably, in Toronto until municipal officers were relocated in the new city hall, opened in 1900. Much renovated, the former city hall of 1845 survives as the Lower St. Lawrence Market. (City of Toronto Archives)

Quebec towns and cities eschewed the construction of monumental town halls; only Montreal (1872-78) and Quebec City (1895-96) undertook the erection of such structures, though many municipalities began buildings unpretentious in design, siting and finish. The province's two largest cities, on the other hand, planned elaborate symbolic structures on prominent sites; both were based, in contrast with Bonsecours Market, on models that were assuredly French, rather than British. The Montreal city hall of 1872 (Fig. 6) was inspired by the town hall of Paris and, through it, by the work of the French architect Mansart; though the building was reconstructed after a devastating fire in 1922, the original concept remains clear even today. Unlike Bonsecours Market, the 1872 city hall was placed away from the waterfront, close to the commercial heart of what was a city increasingly less dependent upon the harbour for its survival. Similarly non-British design origins may be traced for the municipal building in Quebec City. The plan appears to be an amalgam of several proposals submitted in an architectural competition, and the resulting building

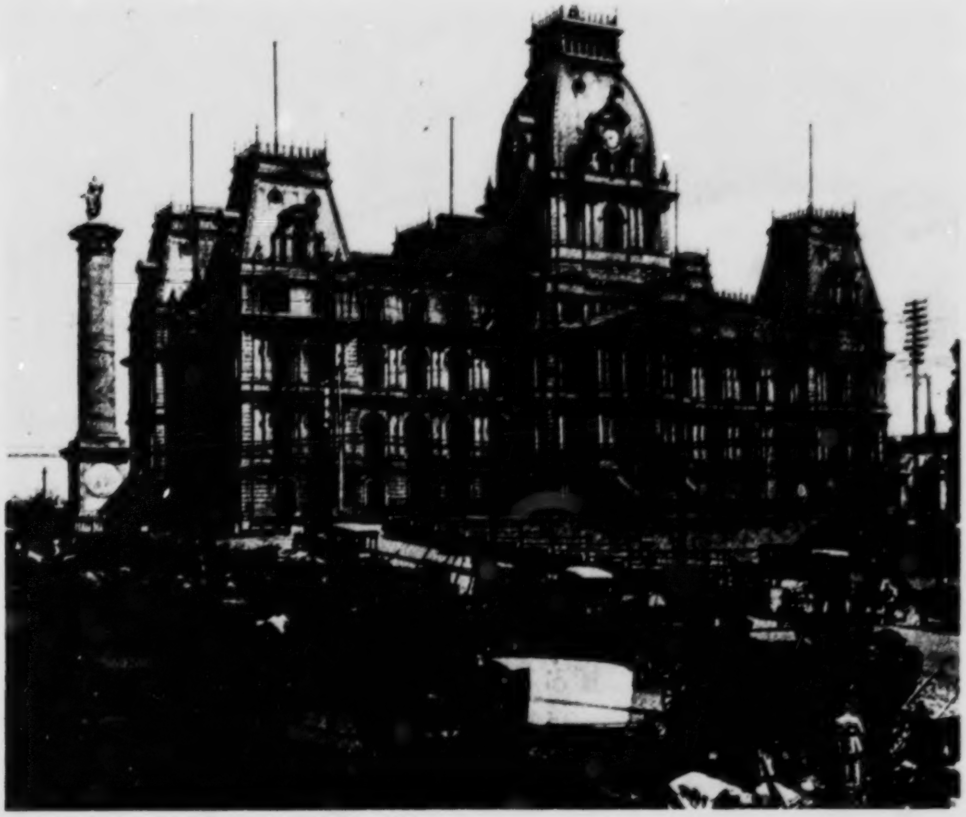

Figure 6. Montreal City Hall; constructed between 1872 and 1878; badly damaged by fire in 1922 and rebuilt between 1922 and 1926; H.M. Perrault and Alex Hutchison, architects (1872) and J.A.L. Lafrenière, architect (1926). Even in what was then Canada's largest city, the association of city hall and market persisted until well into the 20th century. The city hall in Montreal is among the largest and most elaborate in the country; yet it, too, was fronted by a market. This scene was repeated, on a smaller scale, in villages, towns and cities throughout the nation. Even in a municipality as large and diverse as Montreal, the notion of the town hall as a place of meeting and social mingling continued for a considerable time. (Public Archives Canada)

reflects this in the eclecticism of its stylistic details. Like most of the city's public buildings, it is superbly sited and the overall effect is impressive.[14]

It is not difficult to explain Quebec's lack of interest in monumental town halls. Though the province has had a long history of municipal government, its citizens have never entrusted the local level with extensive powers. Urban municipalities in the province have generally exercised their powers less vigorously than those in Ontario. This has resulted partly from a social value system that has traditionally praised rural life and the benefits of an agrarian lifestyle over urbanization and industrialization.[15] The persistence of these values, even in the face of rapid urban growth, provided an intellectual context that justified a minor role for symbols of the greatness of cities, monumental town halls. As early as 1871 almost a quarter of the province's people lived in urban areas, while only 47 per cent were directly involved in agriculture. By 1915 the urban population exceeded the rural for the first time; six years later nearly 60 per cent lived in cities and towns while fewer than 10 per cent supported themselves through agricultural production.[16] The province therefore faced a situation in which the prevailing self-image did not mesh with social realities. Almost in spite of itself, Quebec had become one of the most urbanized and industrialized regions in the country. What appears to be a fundamental lack of sympathy for either of these conditions, however, hampered the construction of buildings, such as town halls, that celebrated those realities. Though 39 municipalities were incorporated between 1855 and 1865, for example, few municipal buildings were constructed, and none that qualified as a monumental symbol.

The value system alone could account for the resistence of municipalities in Quebec to construct monumental representational town halls, but this factor was undoubtedly assisted in some measure by the pattern of urban development in the province. Quebec differs from Ontario, but is like the other provinces in being profoundly influenced by a single city. Montreal has traditionally dominated the province, in terms of population and concentration of economic activity, in a way that Toronto never did in Ontario before 1930. Until after 1890, when the pace of town hall construction increased greatly, only Montreal (and to a lesser extent Quebec City) possessed the standing and the economic basis in Quebec for a symbolic municipal building.

In this regard the Maritime provinces share much with Quebec. Each of the provinces has traditionally been dominated, economically and politically, by one or two cities. Though both regions possess a long tradition of urban governance, in neither have cities traditionally been granted sweeping powers; in neither have cities attained a status of unquestioned respectability. As a result, the Maritime provinces have a much weaker tradition of monumental town hall construction than Ontario, and the major symbolic structures were built later than those in central Canada. Two such city halls, in the New Brunswick communities of Saint

John and Fredericton, illustrate these trends during the Victorian era.

Saint John has always been New Brunswick's largest city. Since its incorporation in 1784 it had located its town hall with its municipal market. No one could doubt the city's commitment to economic and social progress; a leading port, the city was the economic heart of the province. Its cultural life was rich and varied; artists from England, the United States and Central Canada graced the stage of its opera house. Yet its municipal buildings were considered modest and unprepossessing. The destruction of large parts of the city on 20 June 1877, created an opportunity to define the relative standing of the various governments within the city.

Contemporaries regarded the Great Fire of 1877 as a test of the will of the community, and its component parts, to survive. As a result, the scale, cost and siting of individual buildings became matters of enormous symbolic significance. Both the city and the federal government had lost their headquarters (the county court house survived with little damage), and both levels of government quickly embarked on schemes for reconstruction. Each sought to demonstrate by its quick response to disaster its confidence in the city's future. Both chose the city's most prominent architectural firm, McKean and Fairweather, and both sought to influence future development in the downtown core by choosing prominent sites on Prince William Street. When completed, both structures (Figs. 7 and 8) elicited admiration, but in scale and treatment the federal building quite outshone the city hall. The former embodied the enormous presence of the federal government in the port; six storeys high, it measured 200 by 100 feet. The city hall, on the other hand, was three storeys high, and measured only 58 by 46 feet. Its interior fixtures were fine – the woodwork is still a subject of admiration – but the federal building was more elaborately finished. In scale, cost and visual impact the city found its headquarters outclassed by both the federal government and the county.[17]

Fredericton's case is somewhat closer to the monumental symbolism examined in Central Canada, perhaps because the city is New Brunswick's capital. Fredericton's city hall (Fig. 9) was constructed between 1875 and 1876. It succeeded a plain brick market house built in 1869, which had, to the delight of many, burned to the ground. The 1875 structure was also designed by the Saint John firm of McKean and Fairweather as a pleasant contrast to its predecessor. An envious Saint John newspaper noted that the new city hall was, compared with the earlier,

> a structure in which the people of the Capital of New Brunswick may justly feel proud, as in an architectural point of view, it is far in advance of any building which hitherto has been erected there for civic use.... The erection of the new City Hall may, therefore, be regarded as a new departure, and the beginning of a new order of things for the pretty and picturesque Capital of New Brunswick.[18]

The building was an immediate success. An elaborately carved coat of arms over the front door embodied the structure's symbolic role and hinted at the fine interior appointments within. Marble and slate covered the floors in the public areas, while the main hall was tastefully decorated and comfortable. Office space was conveniently located and suitably utilitarian in decor, while the council chamber continued the richness of the public spaces with its ceremonial scale and elaborate decoration. The exterior was dominated by an impressive tower 115 feet high. Visible for miles around, the tower focused attention on a civic symbol much more impressive in its effect than that of its habitual rival, Saint John.

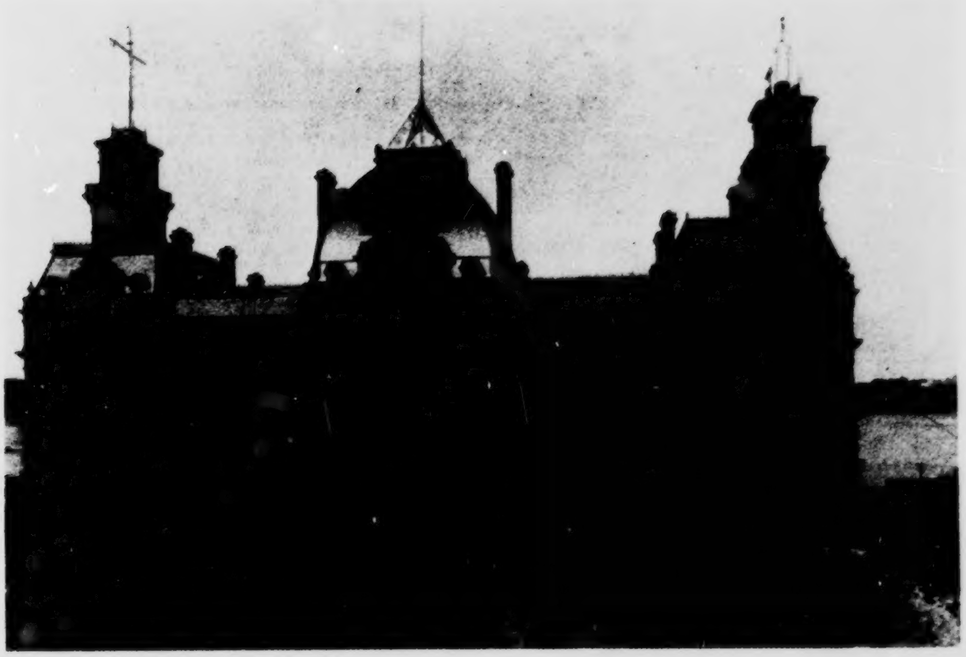

Figure 7. The Customs House, Saint John, N.B.; constructed between 1877 and 1879; McKean and Fairweather, associated architects with the Department of Public Works, Ottawa. This elegant and imposing building housed the federal government's offices in Saint John and proudly proclaimed the federal presence in the city. In scale, siting and finish, it far outshone Saint John City Hall (Fig. 8). (Public Archives Canada)

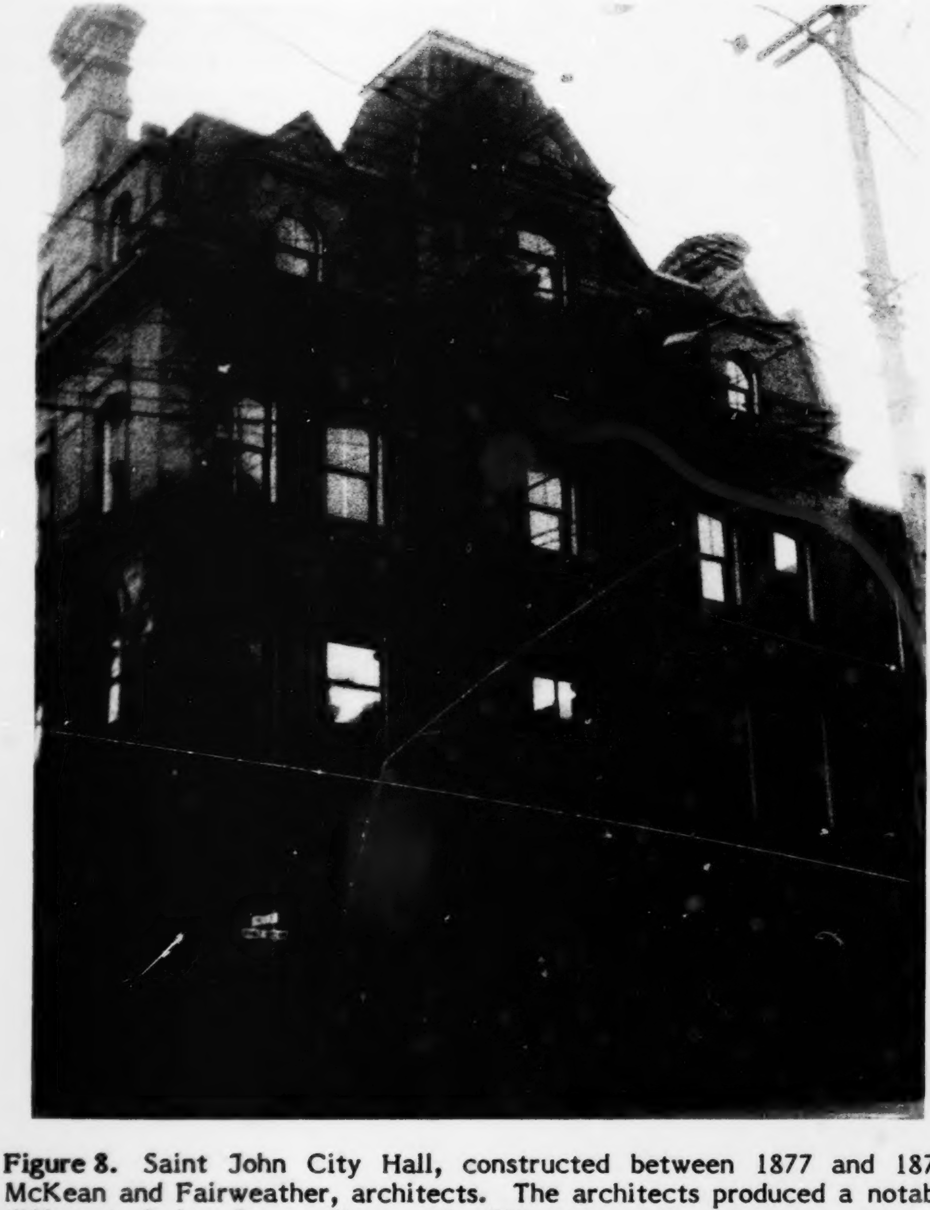

Figure 8. Saint John City Hall, constructed between 1877 and 1879; McKean and Fairweather, architects. The architects produced a notably different design for a client with different needs and fewer resources available. Saint John City Hall is a notable public building, but both the county court house and the Customs House were finer in scale, siting and finish. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

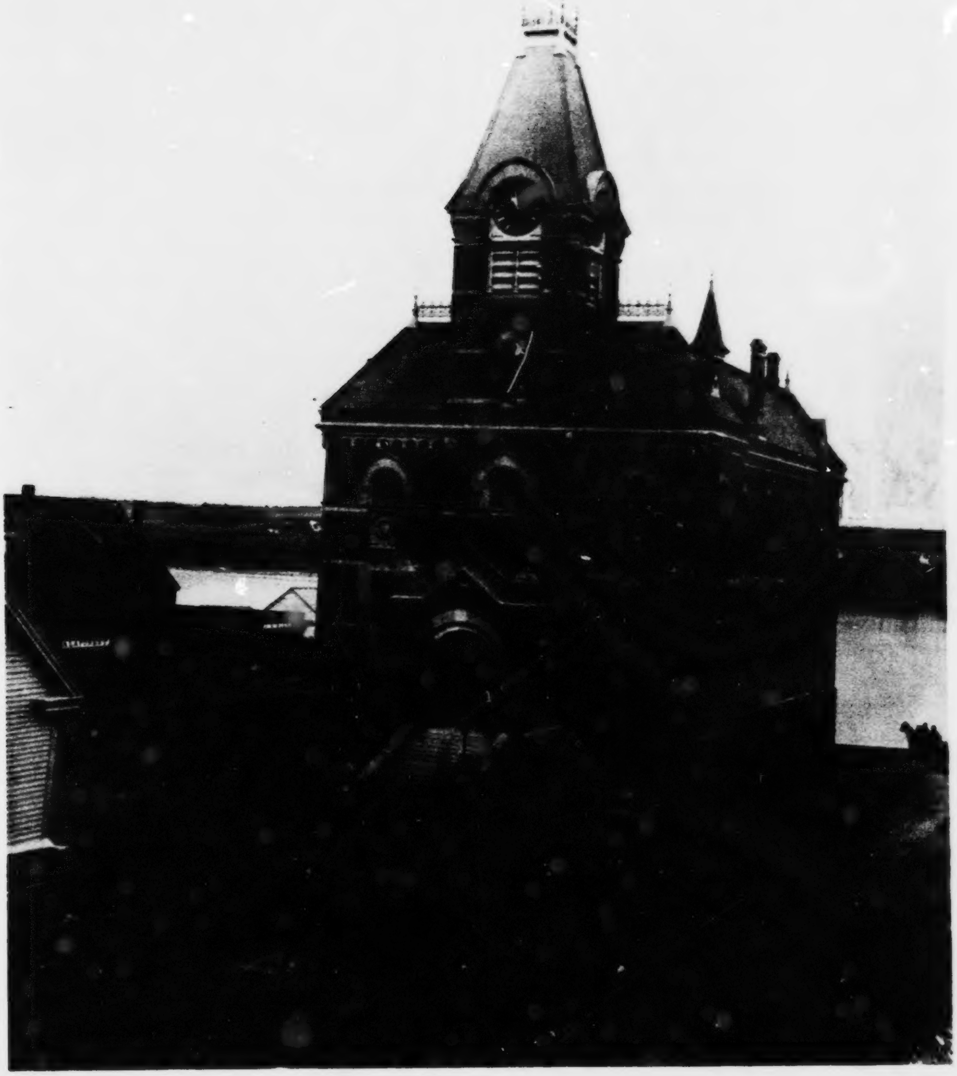

Figure 9. City hall, Fredericton, N.B.; constructed between 1875 and 1876; McKean and Fairweather, architects. Fredericton City Hall in 1877, shortly after its completion, stands in splendid isolation, its sculpted brick and stone façade and its soaring tower a distinct contrast to the somewhat austere surroundings. Little wonder that visitors were impressed, and neighbouring municipalities were envious. (Taylor Collection, Public Archives of New Brunswick)

But Fredericton's municipal building, like that of Halifax which was built later, was a marked departure for the Maritimes. Rather more typical in its lack of interest in a town hall is the case of the Cape Breton town of North Sydney, which never did build a town hall. The largest city on Cape Breton until 1900, North Sydney was incorporated in 1885, at which time it was the fourth largest port in Canada in terms of volume of goods exported. It was the coaling station for many transatlantic steamship lines, including the Cunard Company, and in 1898 was chosen the continental terminus for the Newfoundland ferry. Since 1841 it had been the site of the county court house. All in all it was a regional centre and a prosperous community, much like Saint John. It differed, however, in that the city fathers never built a town hall. During the 19th century the clerk's office was located in a storefront on Commercial Street, while meetings of council and public events were held in the court house. Social gatherings took place in one of the several privately owned halls available in the city. Shortly after 1900 the civic offices were moved to converted space over a store, and in 1946 transferred to more converted quarters in a business block downtown.

Like many Maritime municipalities, North Sydney possessed the tax base, the financial resources and the functional need to build a town hall. It did not lack for municipal pride, or for the history, achievements and aspirations on which such pride could be based. Rather, North Sydney never associated its view of itself with a civic building; in a region where the construction of a fine town hall was not expected, the city never regarded such a structure as a high priority.[19]

In this respect, the Maritime provinces and Quebec stand in stark contrast to the experience of Ontario during the Victorian era. The town halls in Kingston and Toronto were the first of literally hundreds of municipal buildings of various styles, functions and sizes. To many commentators, a fine town hall was an expected element in the fabric of even smaller Ontario towns, while cities were expected to build municipal buildings of monumental scale. As we shall see, these expectations were often unfulfilled, but their existence explains the fact that in terms of numbers, the province of Ontario possesses the majority of extant town halls in our survey, and more monumental symbolic buildings than any other region. This appears to reflect the historical reality that the construction of municipal buildings has consistently fulfilled a deeply felt cultural and functional need in the province. This need appears to have existed to the same extent in no other region in Canada, and therefore the case of Ontario deserves extended examination.

During the 19th century the province of Ontario developed from a pioneer community to a highly urbanized and industrialized economy. In contrast to Quebec, the province's dominant ethos encouraged and welcomed, with some misgivings, these developments. "Progress" was widely held to be associated with economic expansion, and social progress was thought to be allied to economic progress. A community that fostered the economic well-being of its citizenry would, almost automatically, reap the benefits of a socially stable and advanced civilization. Though the problems of poverty, ill health and social breakdown in cities were recognized, few considered them intrinsic to the processes of capitalism and industrialization; rather, they seemed to be unfortunate, but curable, by-products of an essentially forward looking and beneficial system.[20]

Although no society as complex as Ontario's can be defined so simply, these ideas pervaded much of the province, and remained strong over time, as dozens of Ontario municipalities undertook the construction of monumental symbolic town halls. The quality of design, the modernity of style and the expensiveness of finish all were taken to be signs of both the economic well-being and cultural sophistication of a city's citizenry. The town solicitor for Stratford, for example, averred that "the public buildings of a city are an index of the city's prosperity."[21] The mayor of Toronto, John Shaw, developed this theme more fully. In opening the city's third city hall in 1899, he reflected on the cultural role of monumental public buildings:

> Why people will spend large amounts of money on great buildings opens a wider field of thought. It may, however, be roughly answered, that great buildings symbolize a people's deeds and aspirations. It has been said that wherever a nation has a conscience and a mind, it recorded the evidence of its being in the highest products of this greatest of all arts, architecture. Where no such monuments are to be found, the mental and moral natures of the people have not been above the faculties of the brutes.[22]

As the province's largest city, Toronto cannot be taken as typical, and Shaw was undoubtedly an exceptionally articulate spokesman who felt some need to justify the enormous expense of the new city hall. Even so, the rationale he stated underlay the construction of many of Ontario's fine Victorian town halls.

To advocates of monumental civic architecture, the lack of a fine town hall was clear evidence that a municipality lacked a truly progressive administration. The absence of a town hall in Guelph, the local newspaper admitted, was "a notorious fact, and by no means creditable to the place." The arrival of the ultimate Victorian symbol of progress, the railway, goaded city council to proceed with an architectural competition, won by the noted Toronto architect, William Thomas. No doubt the town's newspaper was indulging in hyperbole in stating that the arrival of the railway and the completion of the new town hall presaged a time when the town would become "the centre of creation," but in doing so they just as certainly were expressing a deeply felt, if naive, belief in the idea of progress.[23]

Many other Ontario towns and cities followed this pattern of behaviour. Extreme cases highlight trends of this kind; though they were unusually attracted to symbolic town halls, the municipalities of Cobourg and Petrolia illustrate vividly the power of this belief in progress.

Cobourg's Victoria Hall is undoubtedly the finest example in the province of the idea that the arrival of the railway automatically ensured both prosperity and social advancement. Widely regarded as one of the finest public buildings in Canada, this combined town hall and court house was constructed between 1856 and 1860 at the immense cost of £22 000. The period was one of exuberant self-confidence for Cobourg's civic leadership, as hundreds of thousands of dollars were borrowed for expansion of the harbour, roads and other public improvements. But none of council's actions were to rival Victoria Hall in sheer bravado. Initially the town planned to construct a relatively modest town hall at a cost of £5000 but as time passed and the town's ambitions grew, former plans seemed unequal to the breadth of vision of Cobourg's leadership. Local feeling was summed up by the remark of the local newspaper, the *Star:* "Great as our progress has been, our past is but a trifle to the great future which lies unopened before us." In response to council's demand that the new town hall symbolize the town's ever-growing aspirations the architect, Kivas Tully, produced a building that rivalled Kingston's in the grandeur of its vision of the future. Like many Ontario municipalities, the motivation behind this faith was the immense possibilities afforded by the railway. The founding of the Peterborough and Cobourg Railway seemed to offer nearly limitless economic expansion based on the exploitation of a vast, rich hinterland; in short order the original plans for a modest town hall expanded, under the seductive power of the idea of progress through the railroad, to an immense symbolic structure "suitable not only for present but for future purposes." Opened by the Prince of Wales in a glittering ceremony in 1860, Victoria Hall delighted townspeople and convinced even the most righteous doubters of the wisdom of council's decision.

Ironically, Cobourg's faith in the development capacity of the railroad was disastrously misplaced. The town's confidence in the future collapsed just as quickly as the railway project that nurtured it, leaving behind an intolerable burden of debt which forced the town into bankruptcy. Like Kingston before, and Petrolia after, Cobourg was to discover, to its chagrin, the dangers of too great a faith in the idea of progress.[24]

The case of Petrolia was similar. As one might guess from its name, the town's fortunes were based on the exploitation of nearby deposits of oil. Prosperity, and expectations of an even more favourable future, caused council to examine its public buildings. The town hall had been constructed shortly after the town's incorporation in 1866; of frame construction, it was thought to be unsatisfactory to a town increasingly conscious of its image. Finally, the building was abandoned in 1886 because, the clerk claimed, the second storey rocked in a strong wind. Council conservatively initiated plans for a relatively modest brick town hall, designed by a local architect and estimated to cost only $8000. Alas, the politicians had misgauged the public mood; a town with Petrolia's potential clearly required a municipal building of greater impact and the voters rejected council's proposal by a vote of 82 to 54. Council then approached the region's leading architect, George F. Durand of London, for a much more elaborate building which included, at public insistence, an opera house seating over 1000. This more closely matched the townsmen's view of their future and was approved by a margin of 285 to 35. This building (also called Victoria Hall) cost over $35 000; its completion, one historian has noted, "establishes a point in time when Petrolia changed from a small wooden oil boom town to a permanent community."[25] Like Cobourg, however, Petrolia's self-confidence lacked a viable base. The town's economy rested, somewhat shakily, upon a single resource, oil. The town was therefore crippled when, in 1898, their main employer, Imperial Oil, moved its headquarters to Sarnia; ten years later, the shutdown of producing wells signalled the end of Petrolia's growth. Like several municipal buildings constructed under boom-time conditions, Petrolia's Victoria Hall faced a future of underutilization, stark and expensive reminders of the folly of indulging in speculative dreams.

It would be wrong, however, to concentrate on failed architectural monuments. Cobourg and Petrolia are examples of expansionary dreams run amok. Not all Ontario communities aimed so high, or found their economic prospects so weakly based. Dozens of towns and cities constructed fine town halls, smaller in scale than the examples cited, but still elegant in execution and, in their local context, monumental in their impact. Those who erected these buildings could still point to them with pride and carry the resultant debt without dire consequences. These structures, too, expressed a sense of community identity and of confident expectations for the future, but these expectations seem, in the light of subsequent history, more soundly based. Many of these town halls were constructed shortly after the incorporation of the municipality, in the flush of pride that accompanied that event; most achieved a sense of scale by massing two or more functions within a single structure. A typical example is the small southeastern Ontario town of Perth.

Incorporated in 1851 as a village, Perth was originally authorized to issue debentures immediately for a town hall and market, but deficiencies in both the provincial act of incorporation and in council's own bylaws led to protracted legal controversy. Finally, in 1863, the legislature intervened and authorized council to proceed. The townsmen's intentions were clear: they sought a fine structure that would house a multiplicity of municipal functions, but these much-needed accommodations had to be provided within available financial resources. Although, as the county seat, the town had a solid basis for thinking that it would remain a regional centre, the quality of its location and hinterland gave no grounds for extravagant hopes for the future. Its leadership, nevertheless, wished to present a suitable external image; they therefore commissioned a series of plans from a prominent Kingston architect, John Power, and after considerable public discussion, approved a proposal for a reduced and simplified version of Kingston's city hall. Carried out in local stone on a prominent site, the completed structure was praised by the local press for its "fine and imposing appearance" as well as for its functional convenience. "We have no doubt," the editors commented, "that the people of the town will be pleased with their investment when the convenience of the Market Building becomes manifest by use."[26] In a town replete with fine stone architecture, the town hall combined the best of local craftsmanship with the acknowledged taste and expertise of a metropolitan architect.

Perth's fine Neoclassical town hall is only one of many Ontario municipal buildings (several, unfortunately, have been demolished) that expressed their citizens' commitment to a civic ethos in which the striving for material progress was limited by reasonable expectations for the future; these buildings also represented a desire to temper aggressive materialism with civilized taste and culture. The municipality achieved this end by selecting a design that provided both an impressive façade and an advancement in architectural style. Largeness in scale and modernity in style – both measured against the standards of the local context – were considered an index of the march of progress, both material and social, within a community.[27] Whether the town felt, as Cobourg and Petrolia clearly did, that their futures held boundless promise or, as Perth did, that the future held only moderate expectations of growth, their municipal buildings expressed those hopes and expectations in suitably grand architectural fashion. A local interpretation of "progress" had provided Ontario with a fine collection of Victorian town halls.

Not every municipality in Ontario – or elsewhere in Canada – was guided by such sentiments, or responded in the same manner. Even in towns and cities that erected monumental symbolic town halls, there existed an undercurrent of opposition. Those critics of the extravagance of Cobourg's Victoria Hall, and the 35 people who voted against the construction of Petrolia's town hall, represented the many who felt that monumental buildings, modern in style and elaborate in finish, were a needless luxury. Their opposition did not emerge necessarily from a lack of sympathy for the idea of progress; often it followed logically from utilitarian and efficiency arguments derived from sound business principles. To such people, a municipality's proper role in forwarding the interests of its citizens rested in providing the kinds of services that businesses and manufacturers required; a fine town hall might improve the town's image but would add not one dollar to the civic revenues. The municipal building (if there was to be one) ought to embody another important social value: the strict and careful management of public funds by those entrusted with their stewardship. To many politicians, and to their supporters, government was a business, that ought to be run on strict business principles. This ethos was most articulately formulated in the late Victorian period, when the movement for urban reform was at its zenith, but the basic notion of a utilitarian, rather than a symbolic, building was a component in virtually every town's discussion of the need for a municipal building.[28] In one sense, the resulting buildings were fully as "symbolic" as the monumental structures; the message, however, was profoundly different. If the civic government did not practise fiscal restraint and administer the public funds responsibly, how could these important public values be disseminated? It was a waste of precious tax dollars, and a failure to understand "proper" civic priorities, to allocate large sums on apparently frivolous ornamentation.

This type of argument was often put forward even in municipalities that eventually opted to build a monumental symbolic town hall. For example, when the citizens of Barrie approved the construction of a large new municipal building in 1856, one local businessman, Thomas Meldrum, demurred and offered an amendment advocating a smaller, more utilitarian building. What the local press described as this "penny-wise and pound-foolish proposition" met with no public support, and Meldrum withdrew his amendment. Barrie, its electors decided, ought to have a monumental architectural symbol.[29]

But many municipalities heeded the advice of the journal *Municipal World* to "Treat Municipal Government as a Business"[30] with the result that some towns and cities erected modestly scaled, rather utilitarian town halls of little architectural distinction. The pervasiveness of this notion led one 19th-century magazine to decry the lack of ornamentation in Canadian civic buildings, and to call for the formation of a Society for Improving and Beautifying of Town Halls.[31] In some places, it resulted in a decision not to construct a municipal building at all. In looking at the town of Goderich, another magazine noted the absence of a town hall. This lack, it explained, "may be the result of the devotion of the inhabitants to business matters, to the neglect of art.... The citizens of Goderich have learned to prefer the *utile* to the *dulce*" – a perfectly commendable attitude in a society devoted to material progress.[32]

In the absence of monumental municipal buildings, many villages, towns and cities across the country pointed to other civically related structures as representing their communities. The clearest case is the province of Quebec, where the dominance of the Roman Catholic church worked against a powerful role for the polity. What overwhelmingly impressed visitors to the province was the beauty, scale and cost of its churches. The idea of material and social progress did not enjoy the level of support among the province's civil and religious hierarchy that it did in Ontario before 1890. This resulted largely from a concern, which was most strongly argued by churchmen, that the province's religious and ethnic character had to be maintained at all costs. It was not until after the 1890s, when both the church and civic officials began to come to grips with the main tenets of the idea of progress, that large-scale municipal buildings were constructed. Until that time, attitudes towards unbridled economic progress were, at best, ambivalent; though the church gradually accepted the idea, its tenets were never as strongly defended as they were in Ontario.[33] Even in areas where the idea of progress possessed some ideational power, such as the Maritimes, other buildings could represent the locale to outsiders; the county court house, for example, appears to have played this role in all of the Maritime provinces.[34]

Rural areas during the Victorian period were, as a group, in a similar position. Except for some sections of Ontario, few possessed the financial resources or functional needs for a town hall. This situation was exacerbated in Quebec where the unit of civil administration was the parish, which had municipal as well as private and religious responsibilities. These two elements became so closely intertwined that distinctions between public and private activities almost disappeared; as one sociologist has noted, "the roles of parishioner and of citizen in Quebec are scarcely distinguishable."[35] The parishes were responsible for the construction of both the local Catholic church and the community meeting place, the parish hall. It was only in 1949 that the parishes were secularized, separating their private from their public duties; until that time the parishes were regarded as religious rather than civil institutions. The buildings erected by the parishes must, therefore, be considered as private, rather than municipal, for the purposes of this study, even though they functioned very much as rural town halls did in Ontario, and as meeting houses and community halls did in other parts of the country. Each of these building types (along with schools, court houses and numerous other kinds of structures) sufficed whenever and wherever a rural town hall remained unbuilt.

Only in Ontario and English-speaking sections of Quebec were rural town halls built in significant numbers during the Victorian era. Though these were expressions of the need to meet together and participate in community events, it was their function, rather than their architectural sophistication, that embodied the values of the locale in which they were built. Surviving examples at Frelighsburgh and Bolton-Est in Quebec, and in Ekfrid and East Flamborough townships in Ontario, illustrate the point.

Both Bolton-Est and Frelighsburgh are hamlets located in the Eastern Townships, roughly 50 miles southeast of Montreal. Settled initially by "late Loyalists" and other English-speaking immigrants in the 1790s, these areas continued to have an overwhelmingly anglophone majority until well into the 20th century. Such places attempted to assert their cultural identity through the prominent siting of public or semipublic buildings that embodied their sense of community. Protestant-English to the core, Frelighsburgh erected two such structures in 1856, a two-storey frame town hall and, immediately adjacent, the Frelighsburgh Protestant Academy. Both are now much renovated, and the cultural character of the area has changed, but for many years these institutions, neither of which possessed much architectural pretension, played a crucial role in sustaining the cultural and social life of the local community. The situation was the same in Bolton-Est. The town hall and the Anglican church shared a position of prominence, both physically and emotionally, in the hamlet. The former was truly a community building. Erected in the 1860s it was apparently designed by the municipal council and erected by local residents during a bee. Its use reflected its central cultural role in the district; the open hall on the ground floor was used by organizations such as the Women's Institute for social events, and by council for meetings, while the upper storey housed the Protestant school.[36]

In terms of numbers, the Ontario examples are far more extensive, but functionally they fulfilled much the same cultural and social role. Rural Ontario municipalities needed no architectural monuments to state local values; they permitted the building's use to express its importance to the municipality. The town hall was the centre of community life, the location for a wide variety of events ranging from teas and weddings to bazaars and church services. For anyone who was raised in this kind of environment, the town hall was an integral part of growing up; like school, church and family, it played a formative role in socialization. In its existence and its use, the building represented the first, and perhaps most important, lesson in civics.

Two examples, and several illustrations (Figs. 10-13), demonstrate the point. In 1862 it was proposed that a public hall be constructed in the southwestern Ontario township of Ekfrid. Council called a special meeting of the voters "in order better to understand the feelings of the Rate Payers of this Township on the subject of building a Town Hall." After extensive debate, council agreed to finance such a structure, and four of the area's leading citizens offered to help. A lot was donated by a local doctor – in appreciation council voted $20 to purchase a dress for his wife – while three prominent men provided $150 towards the cost of construction. The completed building – now much modified and used for storage – was largely devoid of architectural pretensions, but its use clearly reflected local standards of behaviour and contributed to the development of a fuller community life. Council encouraged any meeting whose "object was the religious, moral & intellectual improvement of society...." To enforce this high-minded object they passed a bylaw "to prohibit dancing and other frivolous amusements from being performed within the Township Hall."[37] Although society at large might be plagued by such diversions, the political representatives of the community were not about to condone any such displays in a building erected at public expense.

Most rural municipalities in Ontario followed a similar course of action, enforcing strongly held local values either through bylaws restricting the use of the town hall or by establishing a rate scale for its use which effectively discouraged unwelcome activities. The township of East Flamborough, for example, allowed the free use of its hall "for any public lecture that is calculated to benefit Society in general" while establishing a sliding fee scale for (in order of social acceptability) teas, religious worship by dissenters, bazaars, plays and touring minstral shows.[38]

During the last phase of the Victorian period, cities began to appear in the Prairie provinces and in British Columbia. Even by Canadian standards the development of urban places in the West was remarkably rapid. By 1901, 27 per cent of Manitobans and 38 per cent of Albertans lived in cities; over 50 per cent of the population of British Columbia lived in cities, though the province's definition of a city was much looser than that of other provinces. As was the case in the Maritimes during the same period, one or two cities dominated their respective provinces; by 1901 Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg were proportionately more dominant than Toronto was to Ontario.[39]

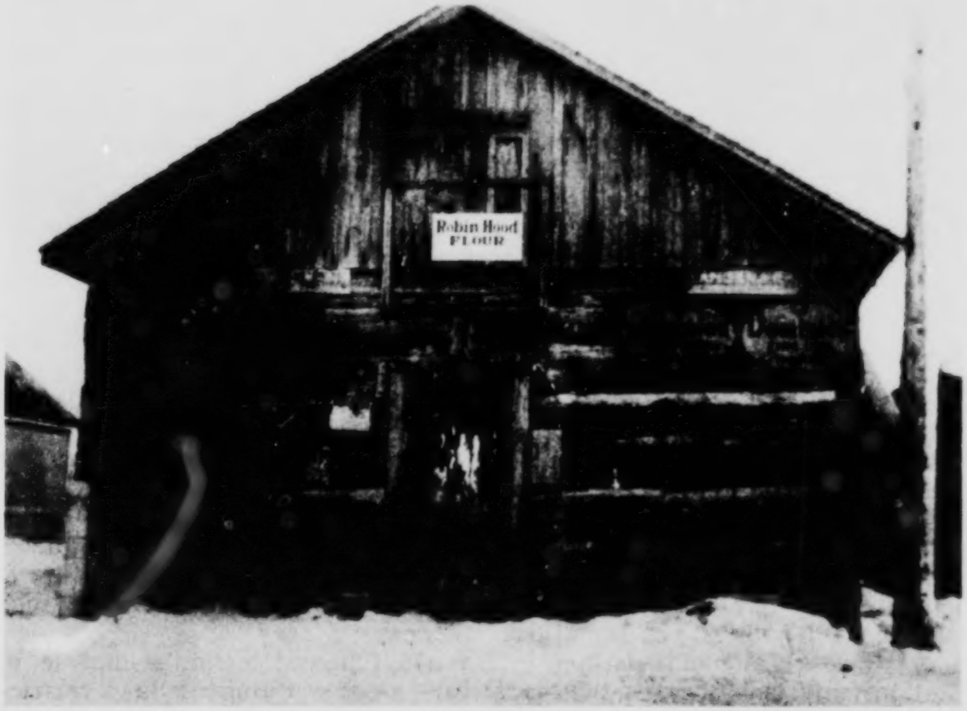

Figure 10. Harvey Township Hall, Lakehurst, Ont.; constructed 1867; demolished at an unknown date; architect unknown. Harvey Township was settled at a relatively late period in Ontario's development; as a result its first town hall was simpler than most. Like many contemporary local buildings it was constructed of logs and is almost devoid of architectural decoration. It housed meetings of the municipal council as well as social and religious gatherings. Like the more elaborate East Flamborough Township Hall (Fig. 12), it achieved its standing in the community more by its function than by its architectural sophistication. (Public Archives Canada)

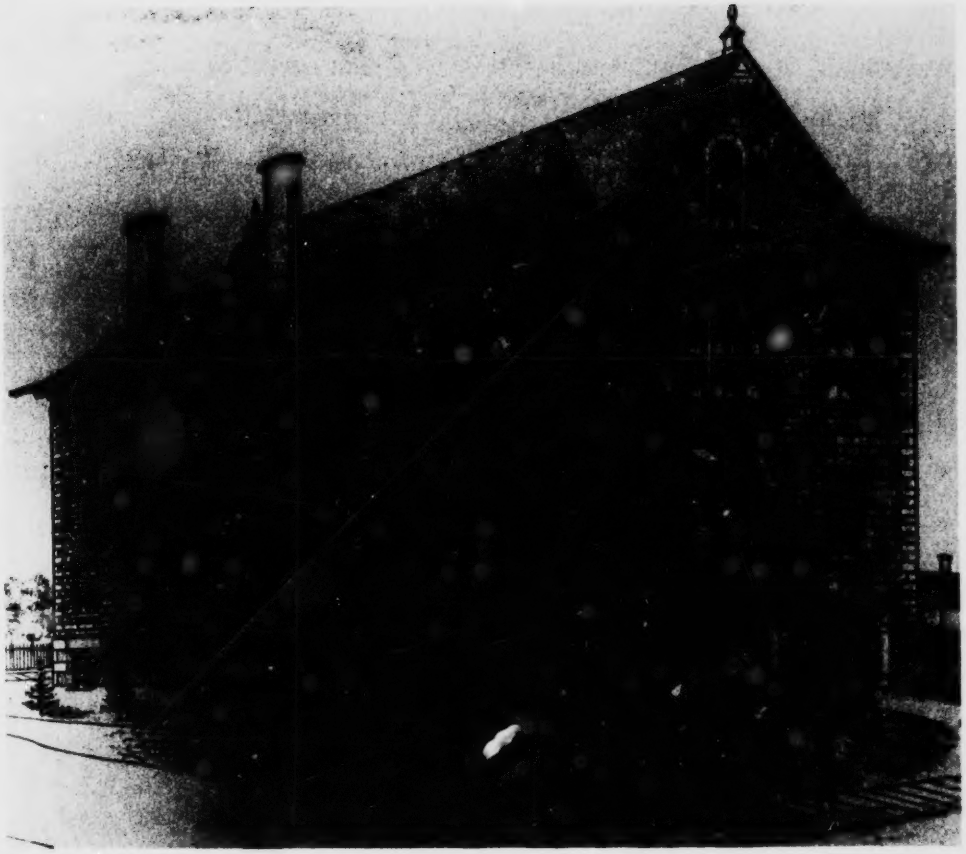

Figure 11. Former Stamford Township Hall (now the Lundy's Lane Historical Museum), Niagara Falls, Ont.; constructed in 1874; John Latshaw, architect. Not all rural Ontario town halls were as simple in design as the one shown in Figure 10. The Stamford Township Hall shows that even in rural communities, the town hall could reach high levels of architectural sophistication; in scale and design it ranks with the municipal buildings of many villages and towns. The market and fire hall occupied the lower floor, while the first and second storeys were open halls, much used for political and social events. The structure, now a museum, could even be the destination for a fashionable Sunday afternoon stroll. (*Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland*, Toronto: H.R. Page, 1876, p. 55)

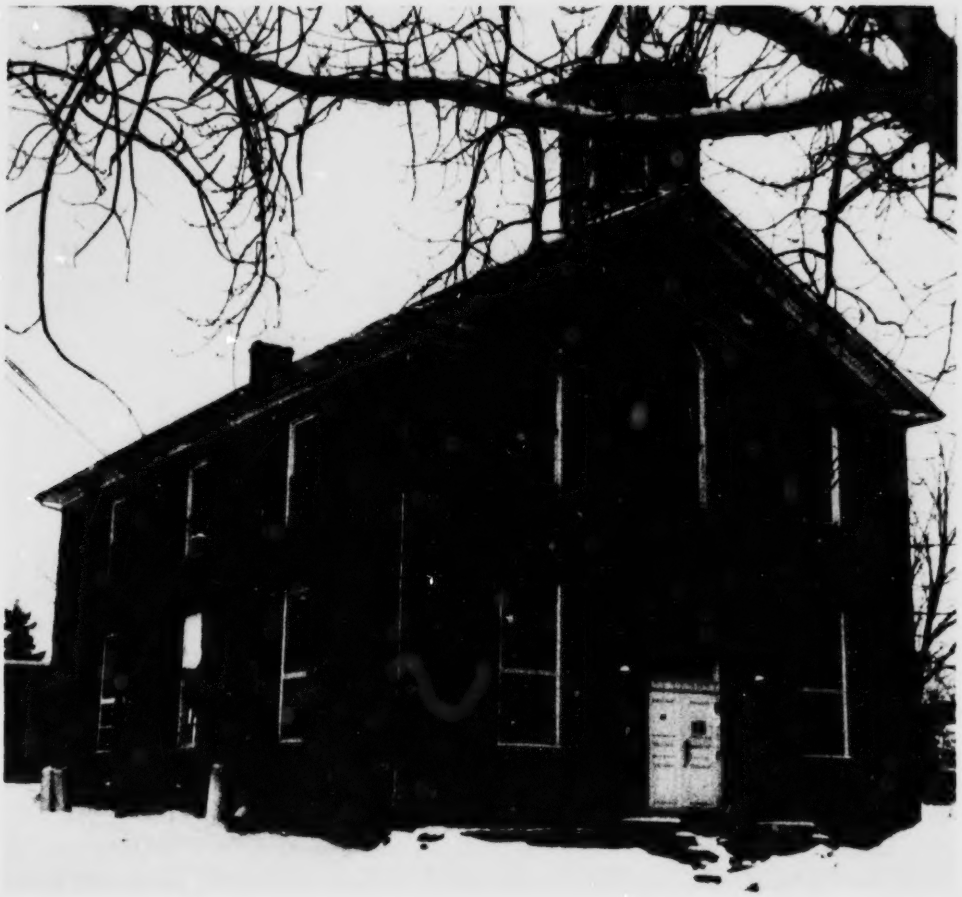

Figure 12. East Flamborough Township Hall, Waterdown, Ont.; constructed between 1856 and 1857; Walter Grieves, architect and builder. The East Flamborough Township Hall is in design a rather more sophisticated version of the rural township hall. In function, however, it typifies the mid-Victorian rural Ontario civic building. It consists of two large open halls; the clerk's office was located in his home. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, D. Johnson)

One result of this burgeoning growth of urban places was a fine collection of town halls. Under the influence of boom-style conditions, many western municipalities erected monumental civic symbols that rivalled those in Ontario in scale and elaborateness of finish. These early western town halls are particularly interesting historical documents, for they arose from a common cultural impetus — the desire to express community pride and aspirations in monumental architectural terms — but they were also distinctly representative of regional cultural concerns. While town halls in the rest of the country arose from a settled society seemingly assured of their regional cultural heritage and identity, the West was a region lacking in fixed ideas about itself, and therefore anxious to establish quickly cultural institutions that could give shape and definition to a highly mobile and often foreign population. As one historian has noted, westerners felt an urgent need to construct a society almost from a

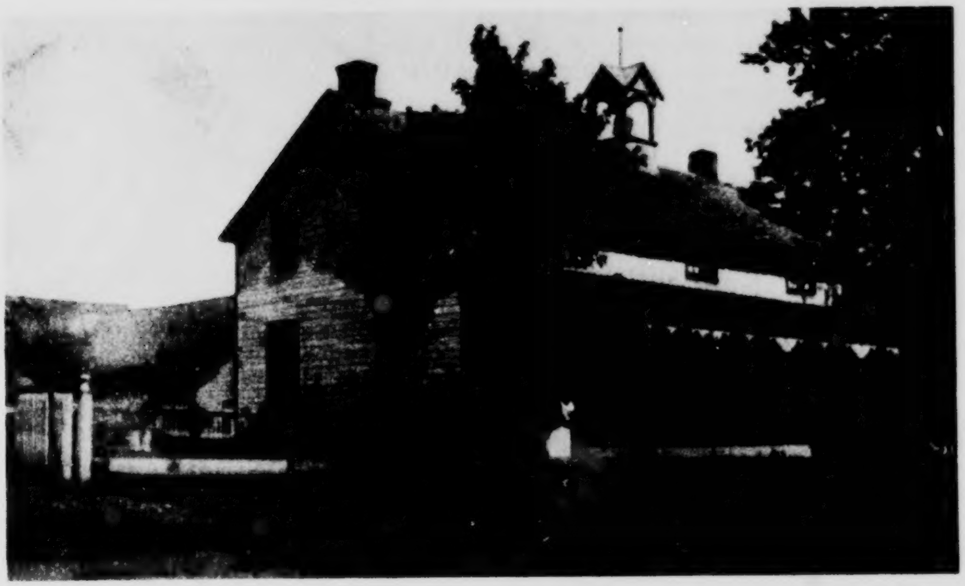

Figure 13. The Iveson house, Metcalfe, Ont. For many years, members of the Iveson family were active in the municipal life of Osgoode Township. The front area of their house in Metcalfe was concurrently a harness and saddle shop, the local telegraph office and the headquarters of the municipal clerk. Many rural municipalities operated (and some still operate) from kitchen tables or studies in the home of the clerk, thereby obviating the need for an administrative centre. Osgoode Township built an open-hall type town hall in 1895 but, until recently, the municipal office was housed elsewhere. (Public Archives Canada)

state of nature, and traditional institutions – the school and municipal governments are only two of many such agencies – were needed to give definition and meaning to the social order:

> The urgency resulted from the fact that the prairie west was not a secure society with social institutions that could withstand the shock of a relatively massive migration of people alien in language, religion and culture. The west was too new, too unformed, too fluid.[40]

The result of these pressures varied from province to province; for example, in British Columbia before 1900 only Victoria constructed a monumental civic symbol. But overall in the West the outcome was a rich collection of fine municipal buildings.

The ultimate example of this melding of aggressive self-confidence and a desire to establish cultural norms must be the 1883 Winnipeg City Hall (Fig. 14). One of the cultural imperatives of a new period of prosperity is the destruction of quickly outdated symbols of former boomtimes;[41] as a result, many of the West's finest early town halls have, like the Winnipeg building, been demolished. Even so, this structure deserves extended examination as representing the apex of monumental symbolic town halls in the West.

Winnipeg's remarkable growth was the result of two major factors: the Canadian Pacific Railway and the promotional activities of the city's aggressive business élite. In 1881 the CPR decided to route its mainline through Winnipeg, rather than through Selkirk to the north. As a result, Winnipeg became the headquarters of the western operations of the railroad, and the entrepôt for the extensive east-west trade the railway was designed to carry. Although no one could underestimate the importance of this factor in explaining Winnipeg's growth, no less important a factor was the self-assured and aggressive commercial and civic élite which directed and justified the attempts by the city to draw developmental projects – including the CPR mainline, its shops and administrative headquarters – into the city.

Members of this élite group engaged in an often sensational, often self-interested program of civic boosterism, employing civic funds and facilities to engender economic expansion. Their efforts were ably seconded by publicists, such as author John Macoun. His *Manitoba and the Great North-west* (1882) is representative of a great body of literature that defended – as if defence were needed – the inevitability and rightness of material progress, and the manifest destiny of Winnipeg to lead in this quest.

In spirit and method, the Winnipeg boosters were not very different from businessmen in other cities at the same time. But westerners were blessed (or cursed) with a deeply felt sense of the justice of their cause, and the inevitability of their success. Their beliefs stand out not in their nature, but in their intensity, while their efforts are notable for their extravagance.

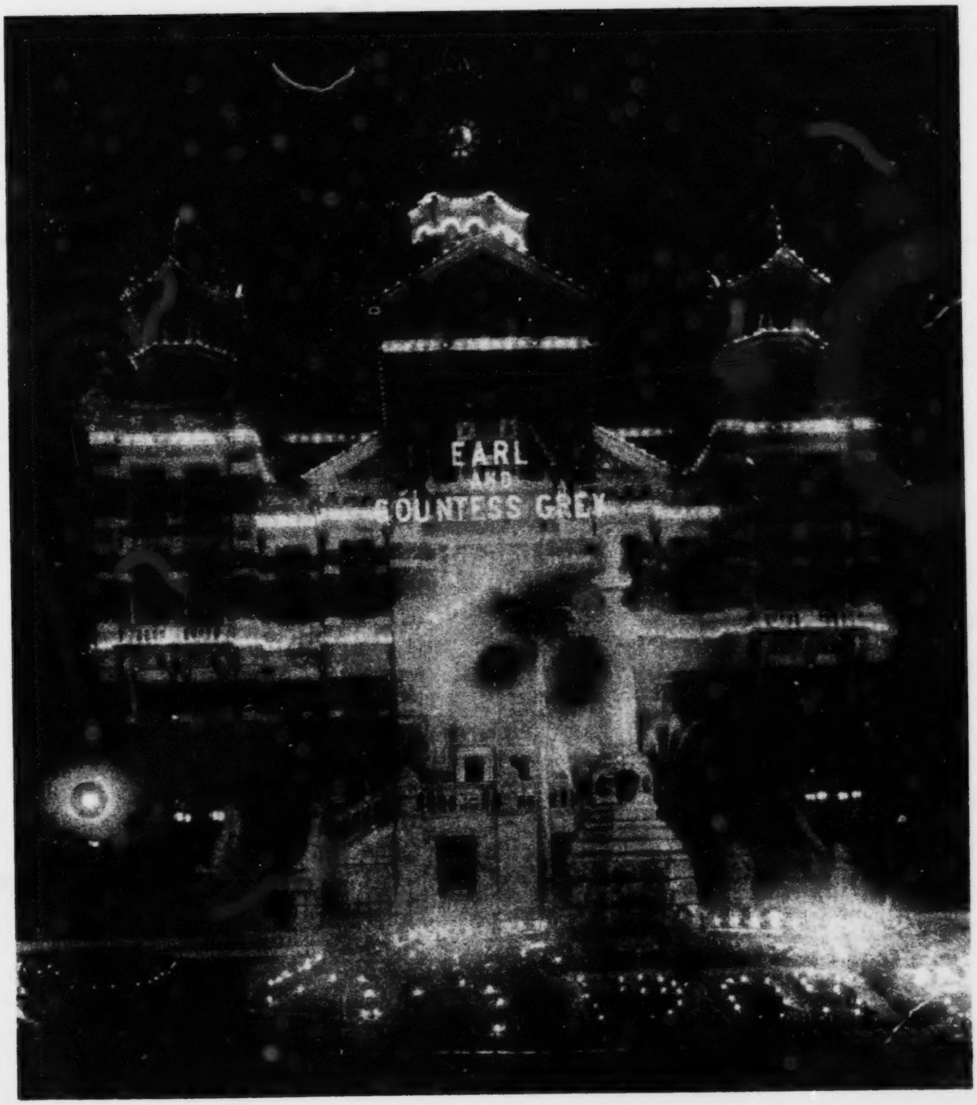

Figure 14. City hall, Winnipeg, Man.; constructed between 1883 and 1884; demolished 1963; Barber and Barber, architects. Winnipeg's city hall — here decorated and lit for the visit of Governor-General Earl Grey in 1904 — was an elaborate example of late Victorian architecture. Prominently sited on the Market Square, it symbolized the city's early faith in progress and a prosperous future. Recent politicians felt otherwise; the building was demolished in 1963. (Public Archives Canada)

In Winnipeg's case, the use of civic funds for developmental schemes far exceeded the practice of other cities. The most ambitious was the bonus of $200 000 paid to the CPR, and the financing of the Louisa Iron Bridge for the Manitoba and South West Colonial Railroad. In an atmosphere of civic boosterism, the 1883 city hall and market was simply one more civic expense that would return major benefits, both financial and symbolic, to a booming city.

As in many Ontario cities of the same period, rapid population growth, an ethnically mixed population and the social ravages of unbridled free enterprise together militated against a genuine sense of community solidarity. What unified the citizens of Winnipeg, its leadership thought, was a shared devotion to the city's economic expansion. The new city hall was designed as the symbol of that commitment. As one person wrote the local newspaper, "if we want men of capital and refinement to make their homes in Winnipeg, we have to make it more attractive than it is at present." A fine, monumental town hall would provide a municipally sponsored model for private enterprise to follow, and council believed that they had solid public support for the construction of a civic building that would "be a credit to the city." As Alderman Nixon put it, "the people demanded the erection of a splendid City Hall building, one that would not necessarily be an expensive one, but would be a credit to the city for all time to come."[42] Like most large cities, Winnipeg mounted a major architectural competition; the victors, the Winnipeg firm of Barber and Barber, produced an extravagant design, unlike any other civic building in Canada, a design that neatly reflected the city's vaunting ambitions. Rejecting more traditional proposals from eastern Canadian architects, the referees praised the home-grown design, judging it "for architectural Design and Finish throughout ... second to none in the Dominion." Although the rest of the building process degenerated into one of the nastiest imbroglios in Canadian construction history, the final result pleased and excited the clients for whom it was built. It quickly became the city's symbol, and outsiders agreed that "Winnipeg today possesses one of the handsomest and cheapest City Halls in the Dominion, a building so handsome that it is proudly pointed out to strangers...."[43]

An exception to this pervasive boosterism in the 19th-century West was provided by British Columbia. Historically the province has been the country's most urbanized society, largely because until 1921 the provincial government recognized only cities and rural municipalities as legal municipal entities. Though it shared with the Prairie provinces an aggressive political and economic leadership, and an economy based on primary production and oriented towards cycles of boom and bust, these factors did not lead in British Columbia to a strong impetus to erect municipal buildings, as they had in the Prairies. One must look to other factors to explain this development.

Historians agree on one point: British Columbia is not a province like the others. Yet the nature and specific roots of these differences have been a matter of considerable debate, the results of which are as yet undecided. Whether one focuses on the relative disinterest of its metropolitan élite in sustaining a sense of community, the strident materialism of its economic leadership, or the deep social divisions within its exceedingly pluralist population, the result is the same: British Columbians appear to possess few of the cultural preconditions that gave rise to symbolic town halls elsewhere. As a result of these factors, only one city, the provincial capital of Victoria, erected a monumental symbolic city hall in the 19th century (Fig. 15). Even this structure confirms, rather than defies, the 19th-century British Columbian pattern for it was built almost in direct opposition to the wishes of the city's electorate.

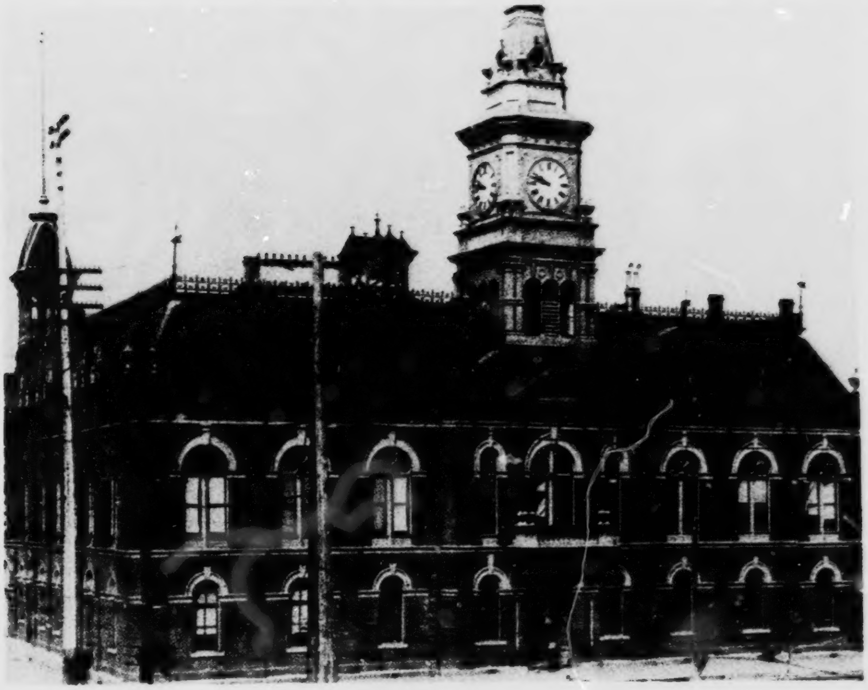

Figure 15. City hall, Victoria, B.C.; constructed between 1878 and 1891; John Teague, architect. Dubbed by one local newspaper, "that elaborate, expensive and altogether in-advance-of-the-times structure," Victoria City Hall was constructed in three stages between 1878 and 1891. Its fine Second Empire design was influenced by the federal government's use of the style, but the building's controversial history is uniquely British Columbian. This photograph was taken in 1891, shortly after the completion of the third stage. (Public Archives of British Columbia)

Incorporated by special legislation in 1860, Victoria employed makeshift accommodations for its civic administration for nearly two decades. Succeeding councils fought vigorously for upgraded facilities, but public opinion was steadfastly opposed to the construction of a town hall, particularly in the depressed economic climate of the 1860s. In desperation council conceived of a scheme to carry out their plans, by combining the new town hall (which council wanted, but the public opposed) with a market (which the public sought but council was none too keen to build). The local press was not fooled by this ruse, describing the arrangement as a "city hall pill sugarcoated and wrapped in a public market."[44] An architectural competition produced a fine Second Empire design which possessed for council the added bonus of making only a modest provision for a market. When continued public opposition threatened to delay the project, council decided to circumvent criticism by the simple, if somewhat questionable, expedient of foregoing a public vote on debentures, and proceeding on a three-stage construction program financed from annual revenues. In the process, they eliminated the market altogether![45] The second and third stages, constructed respectively in 1883 and between 1889 and 1890, took place during periods of economic prosperity, and expected criticism was therefore somewhat muted. Yet it would be fair to say that 19th-century Victorians were never gratified either by their town hall, or by the means used to construct it.[46]

Outside of Victoria, few municipalities in British Columbia erected town halls before 1900, most preferring somewhat makeshift arrangements involving schools, court houses and private facilities. In rural municipalities a few rudimentary meeting halls were constructed, a sign of the need for a community meeting space, but even in these areas private, rather than public, initiative seems to have predominated. The residents of Maple Ridge (now Hanley), for example, felt a need for a town hall but recognized that governmental action was unlikely. The residents therefore formed a joint stock company which in 1892 financed the construction of a two-storey frame "town hall." Space was rented to the municipality for council meetings until, recognizing the positive role of such a structure for the development of community spirit, the local government purchased the hall.[47]

20TH-CENTURY TOWN HALLS

The 20th century has seen a continuance of the dichotomy between utilitarianism and monumental symbolism in town hall construction. In many regions of the country the cultural ethos that gave rise to 19th-century patterns remained in force, though each area was naturally open to shifts in emphasis and modifications in impact as cultural norms responded to external change, economic circumstances and emerging patterns of urban growth. For this reason, developments in the 20th century can be sketched in considerably less detail.

The most notable shifts in attitude took place in the province of Quebec where, under the considerable force of social change, the social and political leadership gradually came to grips with the implications of the idea of progress. By the 1890s the Roman Catholic church had accepted, with some reservations, both the fact of, and the need for, industrialization and large urban places, and the place of both in the march of economic progress. The church remained unconvinced of the benefits of unbridled economic activity; there is small wonder in this, since they, and not the government, generally had to cope with the socially disruptive by-products of the processes of urbanization and industrialization.[48] Even so, the idea of "progress" as a social goal gained credibility, and with this emerged the distinction between monumental symbolism and utilitarian plainness in civic architecture. The experience of two Montreal suburbs, Longueuil and Ville St. Pierre, illustrates the emergence of these attitudes.

Founded in 1657, Longueuil is among the oldest seigneuries in the province. Located on the south shore of the St. Lawrence across the river from Montreal, it became an incorporated village in 1848, a town in 1874 and a city in 1920. Since 1961 it has been a part of metropolitan Montreal. In its economic development Longueuil was both hampered by, and benefited from, its close proximity to Montreal; it lost many industries and service organizations to the larger centre, while becoming a location for industrial spillover. Predominantly French Canadian, by 1915 the town was considered by the *Canadian Municipal Journal* "an ideal compromise between the old and the new – the old sense of local pride and contentment so characteristic of the French race, and the newer spirit of pushfullness of the Anglo-Saxon." The idea of progress, in other words, had come to Longueuil.[49]

The town's first municipal building had been constructed in 1869; though erected in stone, its cost of $2800 reflected its modest scale and limited function. When it burned down in 1907 the town council was faced with a decision: what type of municipal building ought a place like Longueuil to have? They opted for a monumental structure designed by a former mayor, Maurice Perrault, who was then the MNA for Chambly (Fig. 16). The result was an impressive structure which the *Canadian Municipal Journal* judged "one of the most handsome buildings in the district."[50] After its completion, the mayor, Amadée Geoffrion, congratulated his colleagues for their civic pride in completing a structure that so eloquently spoke of the accomplishments and expectations of a progressive and forward-looking community.[51]

Ville St. Pierre, on the other hand, was a Montreal suburb of a different character. Incorporated in 1909 it was also French Canadian in origin but lower class in makeup. Though its relative newness resulted in a lesser sense of community solidarity, Ville St. Pierre was also judged by contemporaries a progressive place; as the *Canadian Municipal Journal* remarked, "as is always the case with progressive communities, the town has not only ambition but a larger concept of life...." The community's basic attitude, however, was of a utilitarian cast, and its public buildings were a reflection of a people "who want no foolish show in their public buildings." Rather, the *Canadian Municipal Journal* remarked,

> the Town Hall and Headquarters of the Fire Brigade, which are side by side, are practical examples of the utilitarianism of the people, who want a comfortable place in which the town's business can be carried on, and sensible headquarters for the firemen.[52]

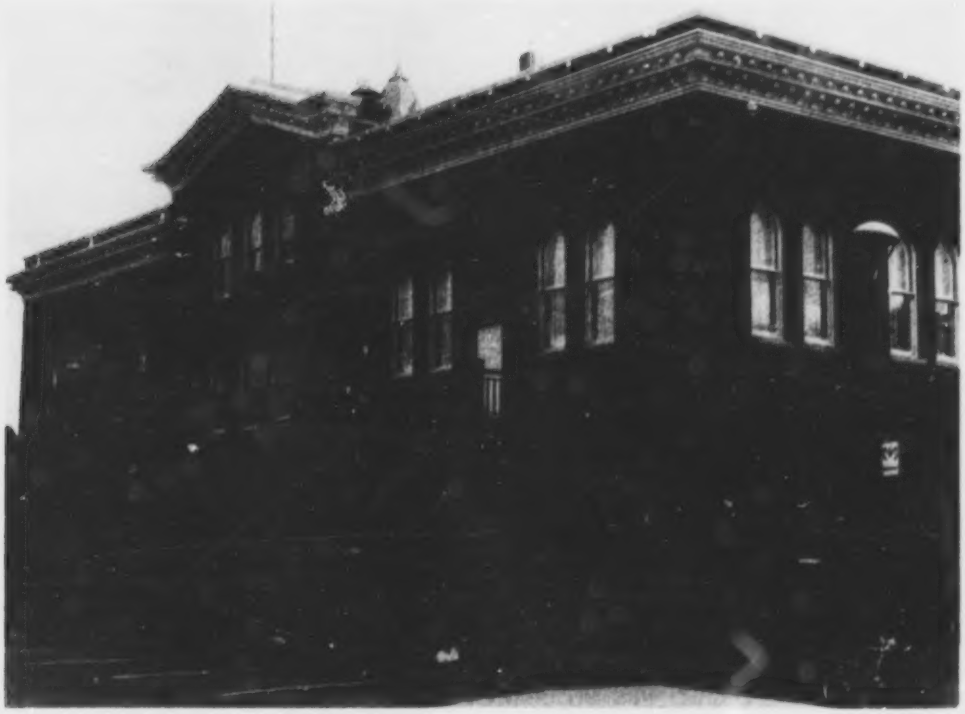

Figure 16. Town hall, Longueuil, Que.; constructed in 1908; Maurice Perrault, architect. Though its façade has been modified, the town hall in Longueuil reflects the desire of the municipal council to produce a civic symbol. Early 20th-century design moved away from the exuberance of decoration that marked the late Victorian period; consequently, the overall effect is somewhat severe. Nevertheless, the building is a good example of massing functions to produce a structure that in its context is monumental in scale and effect. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building)

Ville St. Pierre, in other words, had accepted the necessity of material progress but required no monumental architectural symbol to proclaim its devotion. Instead, the message was transmitted by way of a simple, modestly scaled structure almost devoid of architectural pretensions.

As in Ontario during a somewhat earlier period, dozens of Quebec municipalities had to deal with this dilemma during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many municipalities, particularly those within the influence of Montreal, chose monumental civic symbols; in taking this route, Longueuil was joined by Quebec City (1895-96), St. Louis-du-Mile-End (1904), Rivière-du-Loup (1916) and Roberval (1929). Others, no less progressive in their corporate outlook, chose smaller, simpler designs; in this, Ville St. Pierre was joined by towns such as Farnham (1912), Cap-de-la-Madeleine (1919) and Sherbrooke (1921). Contemporary observers noted the dominance of utilitarian designs, and considered the trend a dispiriting indication that the province had accepted one of the main tenets of the idea of progress, businesslike efficiency, while discarding an equally important element, civilized taste.

The author, Henry J. Boam, who surveyed Canadian cities just before the First World War, noted this conflict between taste and utilitarianism, and considered the cities of Quebec particularly as "reflecting the problems and progress of the twentieth century."[53] Such critics assumed that civic buildings ought to be elaborate both in scale and style; they did not take into account the special character of the province. The high quality of church design during this period suggests that the symbolic role played by monumental civic structures in many Ontario towns and cities was taken on in Quebec by religious structures, either alone or jointly with civic buildings. Many municipalities seem to have felt that the construction of a monumental town hall would have resulted in a civic symbol that would compete with, rather than complement, an ecclesiastical structure which served the same purpose. For such municipalities, a simple town hall served a dual symbolic function of expressing civic subservience to religious institutions and a public commitment to strict fiscal management. Municipalities that constructed monumental buildings clearly felt capable of melding the interests of church and state; this was accomplished by complementary siting, by the choice of style or by separation of location. Such communities expressed their faith in a prosperous future through the elaborateness of their town hall. Whichever architectural approach was taken, the resulting structure was seen as a local interpretation of what was required from a progressive municipality.

While Quebec municipalities were coping with the implications of the idea of progress, some Ontario cities were facing a critical problem inherent in the concept of monumentality in civic design. The functional and symbolic role of the 19th-century town hall was both to represent and engender a sense of community identity; it is this factor that unites rural and urban civic buildings in the Victorian era. Yet this symbolic and functional union was only possible when an empathic understanding exists that the community and the municipality are at least roughly the same. Once the ideal and the reality became fundamentally at odds, the town hall had to respond to this difference.

Ultimately, it must be admitted, urban municipal buildings were failures as agents in developing a sense of community, for as populations increased, the intimacy and social interaction so essential to a sense of community became more difficult to attain. As the *Canadian Architect and Builder* noted, "the larger the city, the more manifold become the interests of its inhabitants and the more thoroughly disintegrated does sentiment become." As a result, in the larger urban municipalities, "such a thing as 'esprit de corps' almost ceases to exist ."[54] In later urban buildings the town hall as a meeting place for the entire community completely disappeared entirely. "City Hall" became an abstraction, rather than the embodiment of a social ideal of community. In rural municipalities, however, the town hall continued to play this important socializing role, the site for many events which contributed so greatly to the development of community spirit.

This decline in the symbolic significance of the urban town hall was paralleled by changes in its style and siting. A developing tendency towards efficiency in architecture led to the emergence of styles notably less ornate and robust than those employed in the 19th century. Compare, in this regard, the city halls in Ontario's four largest municipalities, Toronto (constructed between 1889 and 1900), Hamilton (1887-88), Ottawa (1874-77) and London (1927). The first three were designed as monumental civic symbols. The city halls in Toronto and Hamilton were Romanesque Revival in style, while Ottawa's was Second Empire; all were richly decorated, elaborately conceived and prominently sited, reflecting the seriousness with which their symbolic role was taken. London's city hall stands in sharp contrast; it is clearly a building of the 20th century. Its style is an unornamented, modernist treatment of a traditional Georgian approach; on a cramped downtown site it suffered the fate of many modern municipal buildings, of being quickly overwhelmed by adjacent business blocks. Symbolically, if not in reality, the city was increasingly seen as subservient to private interests, and incapable of representing the entire community. The contemporary language of architectural style, on the other hand, seemed incapable of expressing monumental symbolism.

This stylistic simplicity was a mark of the few Maritime town halls erected between 1900 and 1930. Municipalities like Dominion in Nova Scotia and Sussex in New Brunswick followed earlier Maritime traditions in planning simple, utilitarian town halls which spoke of the continuance of a rather negative view of urban places.

In the prairie West, on the other hand, the pace of urbanization proceeded at ever-increasing rates. Between 1901 and 1911, for example, Canada "led the world in its rate of urbanization, with the cities growing twice as fast as the countryside," and the West was in the forefront of this growth.[55] Cities such as Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary and Regina grew rapidly from town to metropolitan status; this growth led to intense interurban competition, as towns and cities vied for the attention of industrialists, the railroads and the ubiquitous "man of capital." As part of this process, many municipalities constructed elaborate town halls, as evidence of their faith in future growth and development.

Before it was deflated just prior to the First World War, the belief in limitless progress was the most marked characteristic in Prairie urban development. Outsiders were astonished, and not a little taken aback, by the vitality of the idea. The noted British essayist, Rupert Brooke, was only one of many travellers who marvelled at the phenomenon. Such unbridled boosterism was, he feared, "the foundation for a gigantic national gambling of a most unprofitable and disastrous kind." But even as he opposed it, Brooke was impressed by the power of the idea of progress. "The partisans of each city proclaim its superiority to all others in the swiftness of growth, future population, size of buildings, price of land — by all recognized standards of excellence," he noted. Partisanship knew no bounds, he added ruefully: "it is imperative to praise Edmonton in Edmonton. But it is sudden death to praise it in Calgary."[56]

In proceeding with such symbolic buildings, westerners did not apologize for the occasional extravagances their enthusiasm sometimes engendered. Quite the contrary, they saw themselves, rightly, as being in the forefront in the construction of monumental architectural symbols in Canada. In contrast with the seemingly timid behaviour of their eastern Canadian neighbours, many western cities enthusiastically undertook the construction of elegant town halls, often as components of a major program of civic improvements. As the Calgary *Daily Herald* crowed in 1910, "it is creditable to western cities that those in the east now look towards the sunset land to lead the way in public buildings and provide examples for the more conservative easterners."[57]

This combination of regional pride, profound faith in the future, and a strong measure of interurban competition led to a series of fine Prairie town halls. Prevailing notions of taste resulted in the use of less elaborate styles than those of earlier Ontario prototypes; yet these fine western town halls just as strongly proclaimed each municipality's commitment to the march of progress. While rural areas forebore the construction of anything more elaborate than a small, simple municipal office (largely for financial reasons), towns and cities in the West attempted to outdo each other in the quality, scale and tastefulness of their municipal buildings. These new buildings were often put forward as demonstrating the city's complete faith in a prosperous future. When the town officials in St. Boniface discovered that their city was growing faster than adjacent Winnipeg, for example, they credited this phenomenon "to the initiation by the municipal government of a progressive policy of improvements," the centrepiece of which was a magnificent new city hall designed by the distinguished Winnipeg architect, V.W. Horwood (Fig. 17). "When this municipal building is completed," an envious Winnipeg *Free Press* admitted, "St. Boniface will have an asset that must be taken into consideration whatever be the future of the town."[58] Similarly, the town of Battleford commenced in 1911 a fine town hall and opera house, as part of a quarter million dollar civic improvement scheme. Such schemes, forecast the *Saskatchewan Herald,*

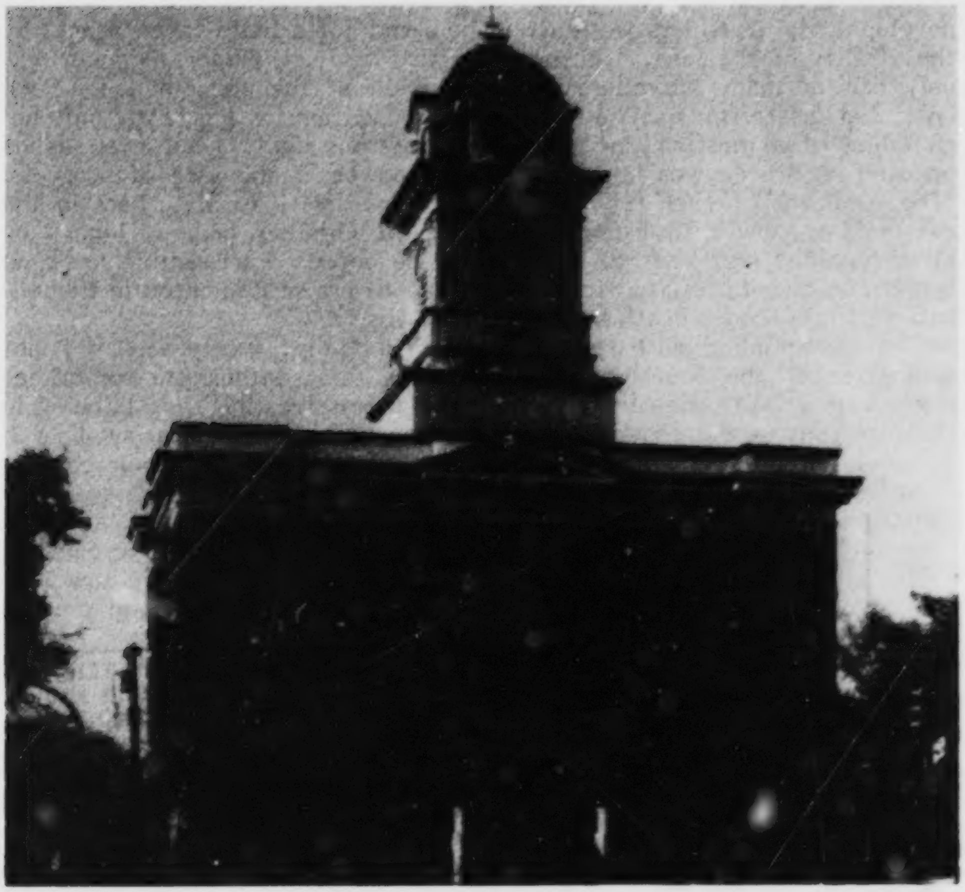

Figure 17. City hall, St. Boniface, Man.; constructed in 1905; Victor W. Horwood, architect. Constructed as part of a program of public improvements, the city hall in St. Boniface reflected the confidence of the city fathers and their pride in current achievements. The *Western Home Monthly* reported proudly that "the building will make a dignified and massive one, and the interior is laid out to the best advantage, with a fine columned effect and massive staircase." (Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada — Parks)

illustrated that "Battleford is at the beginning of its real development and growth." The future was bright; the town was about "to take its place among the foremost cities of Western Canada." The Edmonton *Journal* agreed; the new town hall was convincing evidence that "the old capital of the Territories were [*sic*] coming into its own at last." Since its construction, the town hall has been regarded as a sign of the faith of contemporaries in the town's future; one local historian has noted that the construction of the town hall was "the project that best symbolized community pride at the time."[59]

Calgary's 1911 city hall – a magnificent sandstone building of imposing proportions – fulfilled a similar symbolic function. Upon opening it Sir Robert Borden noted that "Calgary is a city of immense possibilities and has a wonderful future." No surer sign of the success of the present, and hope for the future, could exist than a fine city hall. He saw "in these handsome and substantial buildings the laying of a foundation for the future sure and well."[60] Visitors were suitably impressed; the new city hall completely outshone earlier civic buildings in both its exterior and interior treatment. Of particular note was the city's decision to emphasize its cultural sophistication by purchasing 210 potted palm trees, to give the completed building a lush and faintly exotic aura![61]

For rural areas, small villages and some towns, these elaborate symbols of future greatness were irrelevant. Such, too, was the case for most western municipalities formed after the boom broke in 1930. The high start-up costs of western agriculture probably halted any impetus that might have developed in the construction of rural town halls; their important socializing function was carried on by community halls that had no political role. Furthermore, rural municipalities in all three Prairie provinces possessed relatively modest financial resources before 1930. Small towns, untouched by the psychology of the boomtown, constructed serviceable but unremarkable town halls. But the monumental town halls constructed in cities such as Winnipeg, Calgary, St. Boniface and Battleford represent an important aspect of early Prairie development. The march of progress, of necessity, has required that in many cases, these early symbols of the idea be superseded by even more elaborate civic structures. Even so, those that remain must be regarded as among that region's most important cultural artifacts.

In British Columbia, the experience of the one city that constructed a large municipal building, Victoria, did nothing to encourage other cities to follow suit. By the time that the three-part city hall was completed in 1890, Victoria's fiscal position had deteriorated to such an extent that it stood on the brink of bankruptcy, and the province was forced to appoint a royal commission to trace the causes of the fiasco. The city hall was, of course, only a minor episode in a succession of financial misappropriations, but having been constructed against the wishes of the electorate, it seemed to represent the potential folly of elected local governments. The whole affair solidified the electorate's distrust of "city hall" and resulted in efforts, ultimately unsuccessful, to abolish elected councils in favour of appointed commissions.[1]

The comparatively long period of sustained economic prosperity in British Columbia between 1900 and 1914 mellowed the general attitude of reluctance towards city governments in several municipalities, however. The result was several town halls, some utilitarian, others representational and symbolic. The first group constitutes the larger in numbers, for even in periods of prosperity, notions of fiscal responsibility remained deeply engrained. Typical was the attitude of Trail's city council, which held that they were "unwilling to sanction spending a single dollar unless they could see where it was coming from...."[62] Municipalities influenced by this line of thought constructed town halls starkly utilitarian in design and function. Reflecting an attitude towards architectural symbolism which was so marked in the urban history of the province, these buildings tended to be simple in their detailing, solid in their construction and unmemorable in their symbolic and visual impact. Though each undoubtedly reflected the values of its owners, few could have elicited strong feelings of attachment.

The second, smaller group of municipal buildings reflects a decidedly minority stream in British Columbia town hall design for they constitute, after Victoria, the province's rather short-lived affair with monumental symbolic civic architecture. In 1912 the city of Chilliwack constructed its unique Neoclassical town hall, whereas just before the war, many Vancouver suburbs aped current domestic fashions by erecting small-scale but elegant municipal buildings in a Tudor Revival mode.

In its style, the Chilliwack building reflects the lack of an indigenous approach to town hall design in British Columbia. Planned by the Vancouver architect, Thomas Hooper, it is the only known example in Canada of a municipal building erected in concrete. Though its style and scale would have made it unexceptional as either a court house or a town hall in Central Canada, it is unique among British Columbia examples. Alone among the province's municipal leadership, Chilliwack's council accepted the notion that a civic architectural symbol best represented the city's then-current boom. In expressing approval for Hooper's plans, the aptly named local newspaper, *The Progress*, noted that high cost overruns notwithstanding, they "consider it good economy to erect a building that will now and for a long time to come, meet the requirements of a prosperous and growing city...."[63]

Rather closer to the main stream of British Columbia's domestic architecture were the series of Tudor Revival inspired town halls constructed by Vancouver suburbs such as Port Moody, Point Grey, Ladner and Burnaby. They are in the British Columbia town hall tradition in their modest scale, but they eschewed simplicity in style by adopting the then-popular local idiom, the half-timbered Tudor Revival. While this style was widely used for domestic architecture throughout North America between 1900 and 1914, it evoked special symbolic associations in Vancouver and Victoria. As late as 1929 this style was advocated as the approach most appropriate to the region. It was, one observer noted, "at once aesthetically pleasing and adapted to local climatic conditions." Furthermore, it recalled the British connection in specific architectural images; its historical connections provided a link between a rapidly industrializing present and a more pastoral, and presumably less harried, past. Under the influence of metropolitan cultural values, several Vancouver suburbs constructed town halls that in their style denied explicitly the march of industrialism by evoking a civic image of studied historicism and rural tranquility.[64]

CONCLUSION

The town hall is, in some ways, a curious building type. Its construction is not required by either law or function; in this respect, it stands in contrast to court houses. Many Canadian municipalities – ranging in population from small rural units to some of this country's largest cities – either do not now have such a structure, or at some point in their history have done without. The construction of a town hall, then, is a voluntary expression of corporate civic values, a response to some felt functional or symbolic need. For that reason, town halls are a particularly illuminating building type.

Canadians seem to be willing, if somewhat conservative, members of a western tradition that associates civic pride and a commitment to progress with a monumental architectural symbol in the form of a fine town hall. But this is only one – and in some ways, the least interesting – of three phases in the development of town halls in Canada. This building type has played an important socializing role in communities right across the country. In smaller places, the town hall was simply a social meeting space, which only incidentally housed meetings of council and other political events. In function it was similar to community halls, schools and privately owned structures such as the Women's Institute Hall or the Loyal Orange Lodge. These small town halls tended to be simple in design and construction, and derived their importance from the role they played in the community's life. Their existence attested to a view of society in which local governments should erect buildings whose very existence would help foster a sense of community solidarity.

As the size of populations increased, however, the process of forming a cohesive social community became more difficult, and the symbolic rather than the functional importance of the town hall increased. To forward this responsibility, buildings became more elaborate in scale and design, and a variety of civic functions were often brought together to create a municipal building of some scale and impressiveness. The town hall, or opera house, continued to be the focus of events that helped to define the municipality as a community, but the structure itself began to take on more symbolic, rather than purely functional, elements. As populations increased further, as social structures became more complex and as the community became more diverse in character, it became almost impossible to sustain the notion that the political and social community coincided. The municipality had become a series of communities, loosely connected by the polity itself. In this situation, the importance of the town hall shifted. In larger centres, the meeting hall function declined in importance; after the First World War, it tended to disappear altogether, as municipal governments became more bureaucratic in structure and more administrative in character. In this final phase, the town hall tended to become a mere shadow of its former symbolic role; it became a representation of the progress or greatness achieved by a political community that had little or no underlying social cohesion.

These architectural symbols were only one of many responses by the urban political élite to the profound social problems posed by the existence of cities. By establishing a generalized symbol in the form of a monumental town hall, such men believed they could substitute the idea of progress, however that word might be defined, for the traditional, but increasingly less possible, community spirit of smaller towns. A fine town hall embodied the past achievements, present successes and future possibilities of the municipality. Progress could not, however, mean mere material advancement; it involved cultural maturity as well, and the modernity and tastefulness of the design of these buildings expressed the social, as well as the material, aspects of progress.

Town halls also fulfilled several ceremonial roles. Few were so simple in function that they merely housed the civic administration in adequate surroundings. Rather, they were often at the centre of events of local significance. They provided a community focus for civic events and memorials (Fig. 18), and a locale for visits by dignitaries (Figs. 19 and 20). Occasionally they gained national prominence when events of historic significance took place within their precincts (Figs. 20 and 21). Even in their most modest guises they can evince local interpretations of the "proper style" in civic architecture (Fig. 22).

Municipalities across Canada employed various means both to establish a community image for outsiders to comprehend, and to engender a spirit of unity among its citizens. Advertising campaigns, the establishment of chambers of commerce and the adoption of civic mottos and emblems are examples of the first; the sponsorship of municipal celebrations represents the second. The construction of a town hall is a particularly interesting kind of civic initiative, for it combined both notions in a structural form that was both symbolic and functional. Few building types achieve this level of complexity. Because of their dual role, town halls constitute an important statement of past municipal values and, as such, must be counted among our most expressive cultural assets.

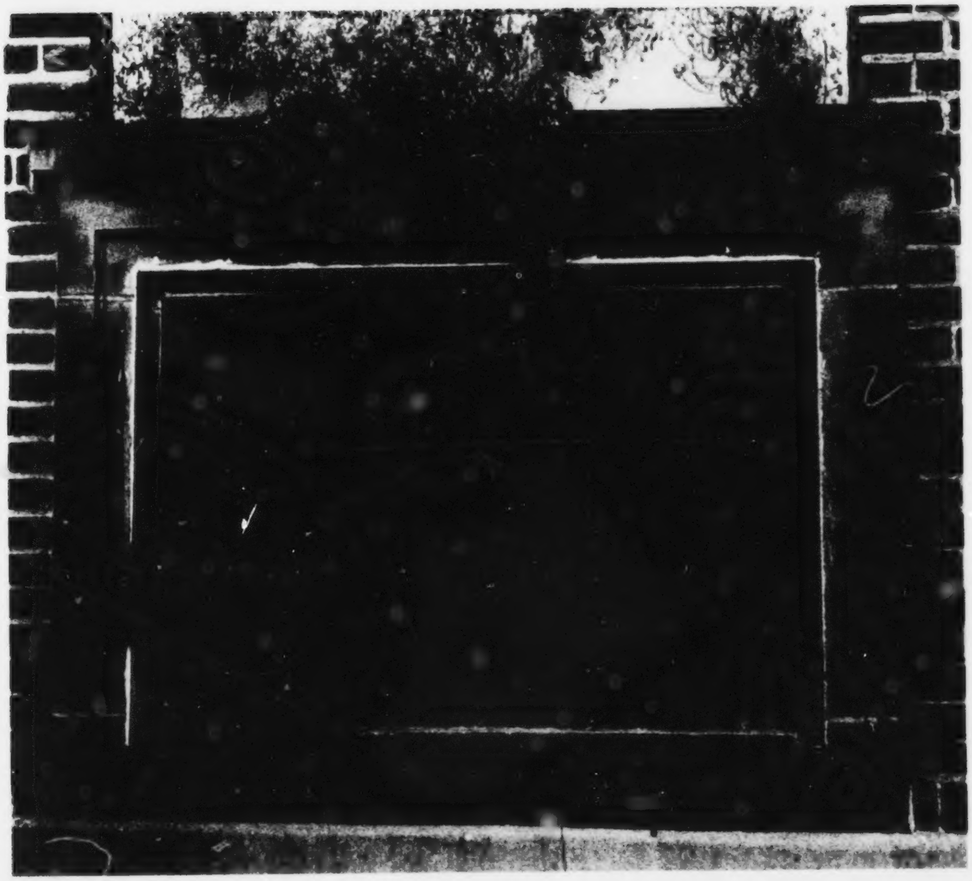

Figure 18. Town Hall War Memorial, Stellarton, N.S.; constructed in 1930; L.R. Fairn, architect. Many municipalities have decorated their municipal buildings with plaques, statues and memorials, thereby demonstrating their corporate support for acts of valour or the memory of important past events. Stellarton erected a fine town hall in 1930; this is their war memorial which is prominently located to the right of the main entrance. (Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, C.A. Hale)

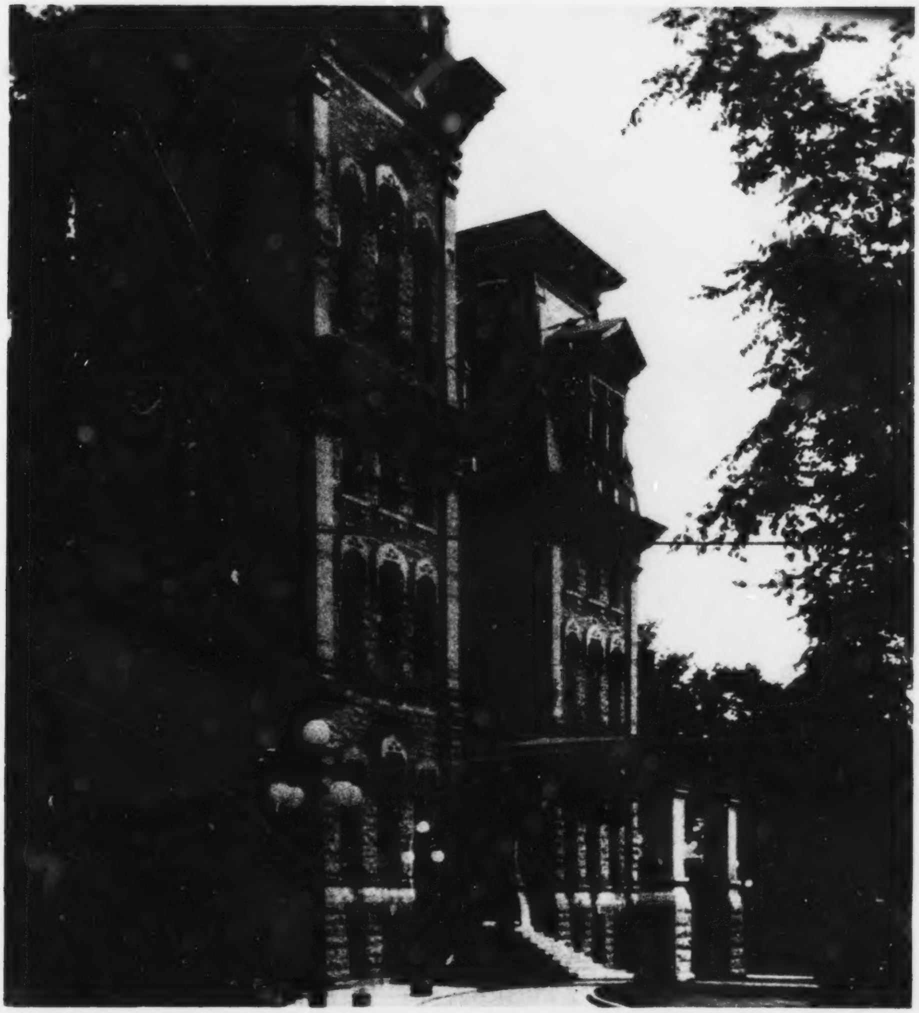

Figure 19. Former city hall, Ottawa, Ont.; constructed between 1874 and 1877; burned down 1931; Horsey and Sheard, architects. Large-scale monumental city halls were often designed to include elements that emphasized their ceremonial role. Because it is the nation's capital, Ottawa followed the lead of the federal government in designing its city hall in the then-fashionable Second Empire style; to facilitate ceremonial occasions it also provided an elegant carriageway entrance for visiting dignitaries. For such people, a visit to city hall, a meeting with the mayor and a signature in the city's guest book were all obligatory parts of a trip to the capital. (Public Archives Canada)

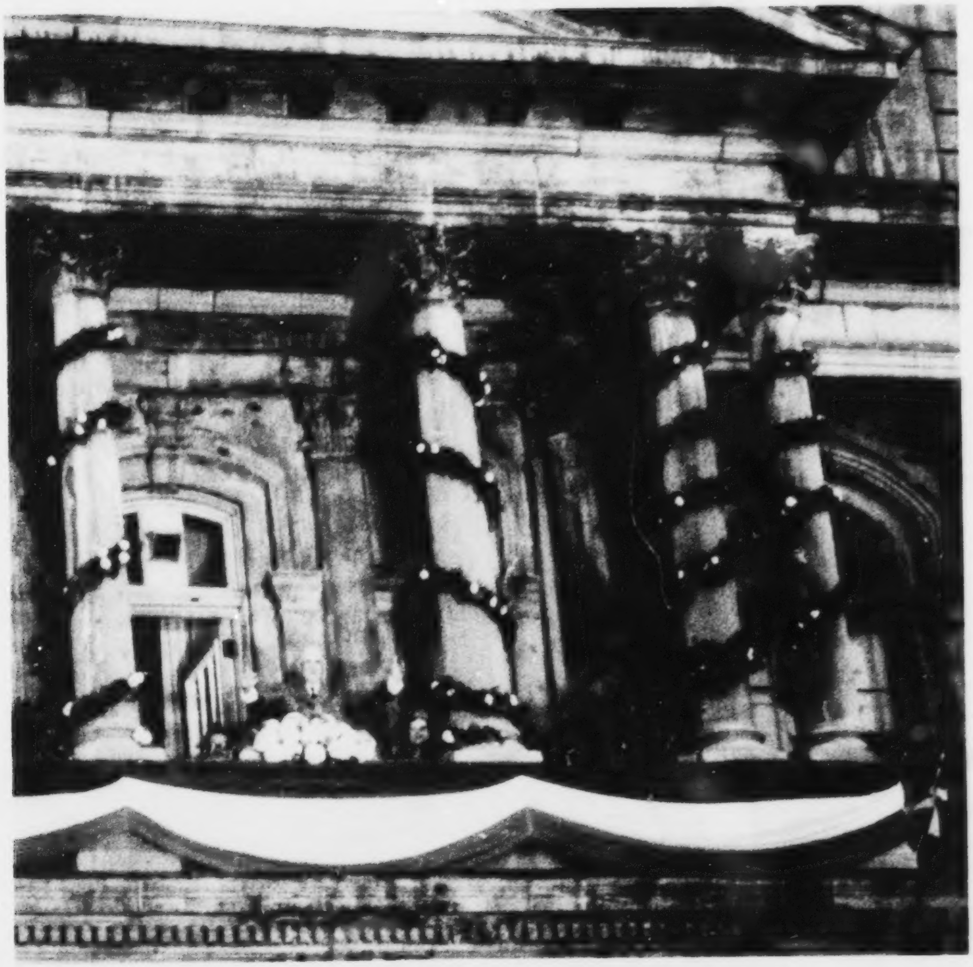

Figure 20, President Charles de Gaulle addressing the crowd from the balcony of the city hall, Montreal, Que., 1967. During a visit to Montreal for Expo '67, the President of France visited Montreal's city hall and addressed an expectant crowd. During his speech, he used the phrase "Vive le Québec libre," thereby sparking a major diplomatic incident. Montreal's municipal building was a focus of considerable attention during 1967, but few moments rival these in historical importance. (Public Archives Canada)

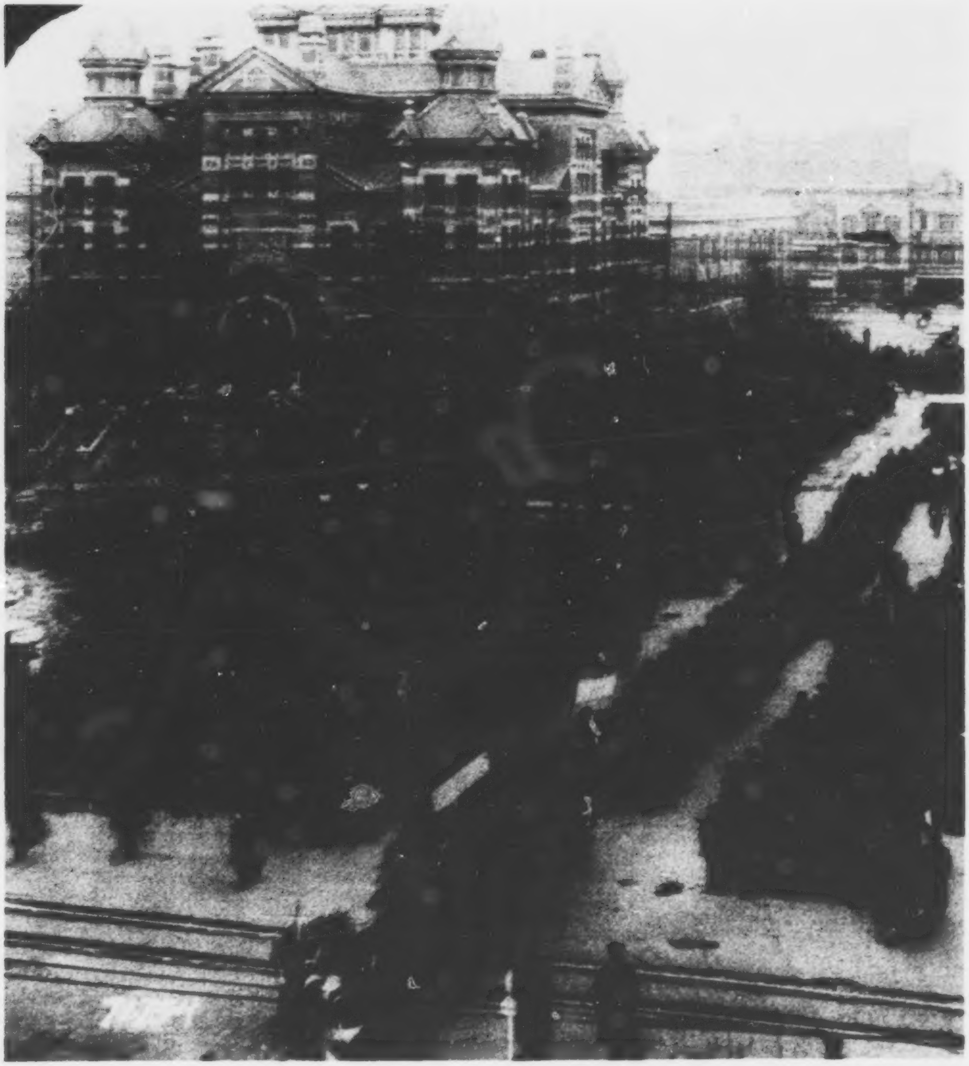

Figure 21. The Market Square, Winnipeg, Man., city hall to the rear. For most municipalities much of the locale's history can be written in terms of events that took place in and around the town hall. Occasionally, events of national significance are associated with civic buildings. During the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919 the city hall and its spacious square became one of several sites for meetings, demonstrations and confrontations. Here a group leaves the square on a march in support of the strikers. (Public Archives Canada)

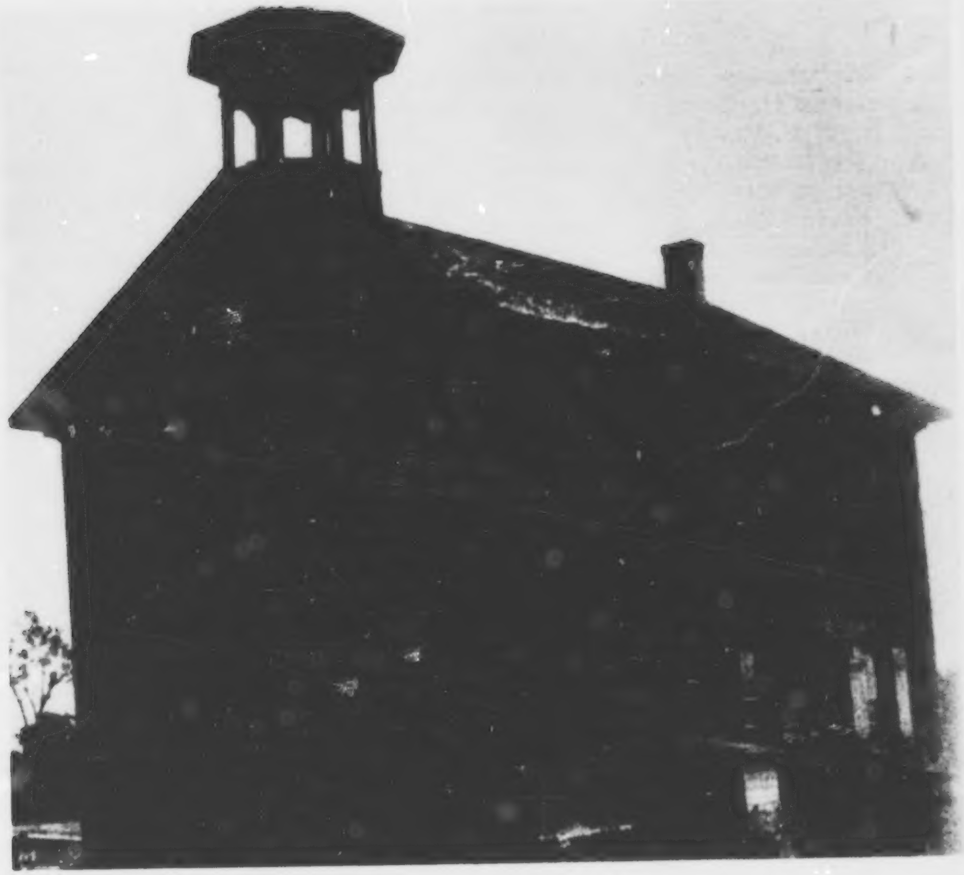

Figure 22. The "Town Hall," Lang, Ont.; constructed 1862; demolished 1960; Thomas and Richard Short, architects and builders. Not all buildings denominated the "Town Hall" were constructed by incorporated municipalities for use by the government. Otonabee Township's municipal headquarters is in the town hall at Keene but for nearly a century the nearby unincorporated hamlet of Lang also boasted its "Town Hall." Records for this structure are disappointingly scarce; legend has it that it was constructed in the hope that Lang would succeed Keene as the township seat. It is an excellent example of a vernacular interpretation of town hall architecture; the style is Neoclassical Revival in a very simplified form. The "pilasters" along the sides were frame boards, seemingly without structural importance, while the façade was decorated by a pediment enclosing a simple entablature. (Public Archives Canada)

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GLOSSARY

Arcaded front
A façade decorated by a series of arches which are recessed or applied in relief on a flat wall.

Ashlar
A square, smooth, hewn stone.

Board and batten
A wood cladding usually consisting of vertically applied boards with a narrow raised strip or "batten" covering the joint.

Buttress
A projecting mass of masonry or brickwork adding stability to a structure.

Castellated
A roofline decorated withy a heavy crenelated pattern.

Cornice
A projection crowning a building and located at the intersection of the roof and exterior walls.

Crenelated
A wall with indented or notched breaks in the top.

Cupola
A small circular or polygonal dome on a roof.

Fascia
A slightly projecting moulding; also the wide band forming the vertical face of a cornice.

Gable
The triangular upper part of a wall at the end of a ridged roof.

Hip roof
A roof sloped on all four sides.

Keystone
A prominent voussoir located in the centre of an arch.

Mansard roof
Variation of a hip roof, with a steep lower slope (which may be curved) and a flatter upper section.

Pediment
A triangular shape ornamenting a door, a window or the front or the gable end of a building, usually located above an entablature.

Pilaster
A vertical, rectangular member projecting slightly from a wall.

Portico

A porch with pillars or columns.

Quoin
A stone or a brick that reinforces edges of walls.

Relieving arch
A safety arch.

Trefoil window
A window with a three-lobed opening.

Tympanum (tympan)
A triangular space enclosed by a pediment.

Voussoirs
The various masonry elements forming an arch.

Styles
Gothic/Gothic Revival
The terms mean a return to the architectural forms of the Middle Ages. The style is recognizable by its use of Gothic details such as pointed windows, doors and arches, buttresses, crenellation, labels and bargeboard. It started in Canada in the 1820 and lasted for more than a century.

High Victoria Gothic
A phase in the Gothic Revival movement that was very popular during the second half of the nineteenth century. It was characterized by a growing taste for picturesque effects, following a more liberal attitude towards historical sources of inspiration. Decorative detailings can be summarized by an interplay of texture and colours in building materials, a variety of silhouettes through the picturesque arrangement of forms, an asymmetrical composition and an increased verticality of proportions.

Neoclassical
Popular from the 1820s to the 1850s, this style adapted decorative details, plans and elevations derived from ancient Grecian and Roman buildings to the decoration of contemporary structures. Neoclassical features are

commonly found in blind arcades, fanlights, stringcourses, antique orders, pilaster orders, and channelled masonry.

Renaissance Revival
Symmetrical designs featuring bold cornices and flat wall surfaces highlighted by ornamented window openings and often by rusticated masonry for the ground floors. This style was loosely based on designs from the Italian High Renaissance and enjoyed considerable popularity in North America during the mid-19th century.

Romanesque Revival
Popular during the mid-19th century, this style is mostly recognizable through the use of round arches.

Second Empire
An architectural style most easily recognized by its mansard or broken roof and its rich sculptural ornamentation. Originally associated with the court of Emperor Napoleon III, this style was very popular in Canada during the 1870s and 1880s.

APPENDIX

INDEX OF SURVIVING TOWN HALLS CONSTRUCTED IN CANADA BEFORE 1930

AS OF 1981

ABBREVIATIONS

CIHB - Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, Environment Canada – Parks

LACAC - Local Advisory Committee on Architectural Conservation

NHPS - National Historic Parks and Sites, Environment Canada – Parks

HRS - Heritage Recording Section, Restoration Services, Environment Canada – Parks

Nova Scotia (02)

02-001	Annapolis Royal
02-002	Berwick
02-003	Digby
02-004	Dominion
02-005	Glace Bay
02-006	Halifax
02-007	Hantsport
02-008	Liverpool
02-009	Lunenburg County Court House; former Bridgewater Town Hall, Bridgewater
02-010	Lunenburg
02-011	New Waterford
02-012	Port Hawkesbury
02-013	Stellarton
02-014	Sydney Mines
02-015	Truro

Prince Edward Island (03)

03-001	Charlottetown

New Brunswick (04)

04-001	Carleton Public Hall, Saint John
04-002	Fredericton
04-003	St. George
04-004	Saint John

Quebec (05)

05-001	Arthabaska
05-002	Bolton-Est
05-003	Bryson
05-004	Cap-de-la-Madeleine
05-005	Chambly
05-006	Chandler
05-007	Chénéville
05-008	Coaticook
05-009	Dorion
05-010	Dunham
05-011	Farnham
05-012	Franklin
05-013	Frelighsburg
05-014	Grand' Mère
05-015	Havelock
05-016	Hébertville Station
05-017	Hudson
05-018	Former town hall of Old Chelsea, Hull-Ouest
05-019	Inverness
05-020	Lachine
05-021	La Pérade
05-022	L'Ascension
05-023	La Tuque
05-024	Longueuil
05-025	Melbourne
05-026	Montréal
05-027	Former city hall of Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End, Montréal
05-028	Former city hall of Maisonneuve, Montréal
05-029	Former city hall of Montréal, Montréal
05-030	Former city hall of Sainte-Cunégonde, Montréal
05-031	Montréal-Nord
05-032	Montréal-Ouest
05-033	Ormstown
05-034	Papineauville
05-035	Plessisville
05-036	Former town hall of Eardley, Pontiac
05-037	Town hall of Mansonville, Potton
05-038	Québec
05-039	Rawdon
05-040	Rimouski
05-041	Ripon
05-042	Rivière-du-Loup
05-043	Roberval
05-044	Roberval
05-045	Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts
05-046	Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade
05-047	Saint-Guillaume
05-048	Saint-Pierre
05-049	Saint-Romuald d'Etchemin
05-050	Salaberry-de-Valleyfield
05-051	Scotstown
05-052	Sherbrooke
05-053	Sorel
05-054	Stanbridge
05-055	Sutton
05-056	Thetford Mines
05-057	Trois-Pistoles
05-058	Township hall of Ulverton, Melbourne
05-059	Vanier
05-060	Verdun
05-061	Westmount

Ontario (06)

06-001	Acton
06-002	Adelaide Township
06-003	Adolphustown
06-004	Ailsa Craig
06-005	Almonte
06-006	Alnwick Township Hall, Roseneath
06-007	Ameliasburgh
06-008	Ancaster
06-009	Arnprior
06-010	Arran Township Council Chambers, Arkwright
06-011	Asphodel Town Hall, Westwood
06-012	Athens
06-013	Athol Town Hall, Cherry Valley
06-014	Augusta Township Hall, Glenmore
06-015	Aylmer
06-016	Barrie
06-017	Delta
06-018	Bath

06-019	Beaverton
06-020	Bedford Town Hall, Fermoy
06-021	Beeton
06-022	Belleville
06-023	Belmont-Methuen Township Hall, Preneveau
06-024	Bertie Township Hall, Ridgeway
06-025	Beverley Township Hall, Rockton
06-026	Binbrook
06-027	Blenheim Township Hall, Drumbo
06-028	Bloomfield
06-029	Bobcaygeon
06-030	Bothwell
06-031	Bowmanville
06-032	Bradford
06-033	Brighton Township Municipal Building, Hilton
06-034	Brock Township Hall, Sunderland
06-035	Brockville
06-036	Brockville
06-037	Bromley Township Hall, Douglas
06-038	Caledonia
06-039	Cambridge
06-040	Cambridge Township Hall, Casselman
06-041	Camden East Township Hall, Centreville
06-042	Seymour Township Hall, Campbellford
06-043	Cannington
06-044	Capreol
06-045	Caradoc Township Hall, Mount Brydges
06-046	Cardinal
06-047	Carleton Place
06-048	Cartwright Township Hall, Blackstock
06-049	Cavan Township Hall, Millbrook
06-050	Charlton
06-051	Charlotteville Community Centre, Walsh
06-052	Chatham
06-053	Chesterville
06-054	Clarke Township Hall, Orono
06-055	Clinton
06-056	Clinton Township Hall, Beamsville
06-057	Cobalt
06-058	Cobalt
06-059	Cobourg
06-060	Cochrane
06-061	Colborne
06-062	Collingwood
06-063	Collingwood Township Hall, Ravenna
06-064	Cornwall Township Hall, Cornwall Centre
06-065	Cramahe Township Hall, Castleton
06-066	Dawn Township Hall, Rutherford
06-067	Derby Township Hall, Kilsyth
06-068	Douro Township Hall, Lang
06-069	Downie Township Hall, St. Paul's Station
06-070	Drayton
06-071	Dumfries Township Hall, Cambridge
06-072	Township of Dummer Municipal Building, Warsaw
06-073	Dundalk
06-074	Dundas
06-075	Durham
06-076	Dutton
06-077	East Flamborough Municipal Hall, Waterdown
06-078	East Hawkesbury Township Hall, St. Eugene
06-079	Eastnor Township Hall, Lion's Head
06-080	Hickson
06-081	Spencerville
06-082	Appin
06-083	Township of Elizabethtown Municipal Offices, New Dublin
06-084	Elzivir Township Hall, Actinolite
06-085	Embro
06-086	Englehart
06-087	Eramosa Township Hall, Rockwood
06-088	Erin Township Hall, Hillsburgh
06-089	Euphrasia Town Hall, Rocklyn
06-090	Exeter
06-091	Fergus
06-092	Finch Township Community Hall, Berwick
06-093	Forest
06-094	Fort Erie
06-095	Front of Escott Township Hall, Escott
06-096	Front of Leeds and Landsdowne Township Hall, Landsdowne
06-097	Fullarton Township Hall, Fullarton's Corners
06-098	Glanbrook Community Hall, Mount Hope
06-099	Glenelg Township Hall, Priceville
06-100	Goulbourn Township Hall, Rathwell's Corners
06-101	Gravenhurst
06-102	Grey Township Hall, Ethel
06-103	Guelph
06-104	Haldimand Township Hall, Grafton
06-105	Hanover
06-106	Harriston
06-107	Hastings
06-108	Havelock
06-109	Hay Town Hall, Zurich
06-110	Hensall
06-111	Hespeler Municipal Hall, Cambridge
06-112	Hibbert Township Hall, Staffa
06-113	Hillier
06-114	Picadilly Community Hall, Godfrey
06-115	Howard Township Hall, Ridgetown
06-116	Howick Community Hall, Gorrie
06-117	Humberstone Township Hall, Port Colborne
06-118	Hungerford Township Hall, Tweed
06-119	Moira
06-120	Huntingdon Town Hall, Ivanhoe
06-121	Huntsville
06-122	Huron Township Hall, Ripley
06-123	Huron Township Hall, Ripley
06-124	Ingersoll
06-125	Kenyon Township Hall, Greenfield
06-126	Kincardine
06-127	Kingston
06-128	Kingston Township Hall, Kingston
06-129	Kirkland Lake
06-130	Kitley Township Hall, Toledo
06-131	Lakefield Municipal Building, Lakefield

06-132	Lanark Township Hall, Middleville
06-133	Lavant Township Hall, McDonald's Corners
06-134	Laxton Township Hall, Norland
06-135	Lindsay
06-136	Little Current
06-137	Lobo Township Hall, Coldwater
06-138	Logan Township Hall, Bornholm
06-139	London
06-140	Aeolian Town Hall, London
06-141	Loughborough Town Hall, Sydenham
06-142	Lucknow
06-143	Lucknow
06-144	McGillivray Township Hall, West McGillivray
06-145	Madoc
06-146	Maidstone Council Chambers, Essex
06-147	Manvers Township Hall, Bethany
06-148	March Township Hall, South March
06-149	Mariposa Community Hall, Oakwood
06-150	Markham
06-151	Marlborough Township Hall, Pierce's Corners
06-152	Marmora
06-153	Mattawa
06-154	Meaford
06-155	Merrickville
06-156	Milton
06-157	Minto Township Hall, Harriston
06-158	Montague Township Hall, Roseville
06-159	Morris Township Hall, Walton
06-160	Murray Township Community Hall, Wooler
06-161	Napanee
06-162	Nassagaweya Township Hall, Brookville
06-163	Westboro Town Hall, Ottawa
06-164	Newbury
06-165	Newcastle
06-166	Newmarket
06-167	Niagara Falls
06-168	Niagara Town Hall, Niagara-on-the-Lake
06-169	Nickle Centre Municipal Building, Garson
06-170	North Fredericksburgh Township Hall, Big Creek
06-171	North Gower
06-172	North Marysburgh Township Hall, Waupoos
06-173	Norwood
06-174	Omemee
06-175	Onondaga
06-176	Orangeville
06-177	Duart
06-178	Orillia
06-179	Oro Township Hall, Oro Station
06-180	Osgoode Township Hall, Metcalfe
06-181	Oso Township Hall, Sharbot Lake
06-182	Otonabee Township Hall, Keene
06-183	Oxford-on-Rideau Township Hall, Oxford Mills
06-184	Oxford West Township Hall, Beachville
06-185	Paisley
06-186	Paris
06-187	Pelee Island
06-188	Penetanguishene
06-189	Percy Township Hall, Warkworth
06-190	Percy Township Hall, Warkworth
06-191	Perth
06-192	Peterborough
06-193	Petrolia
06-194	Pickering Township Hall, Brougham
06-195	Picton
06-196	Pittsburgh Township Hall, Barriefield
06-197	Plympton Township Hall, Calamachie
06-198	Port Carling
06-199	Port Dover
06-200	Port Hope
06-201	Port Perry
06-202	Port Stanley
06-203	Portsmouth Town Hall, Kingston
06-204	Powassan
06-205	Puslinch Township Hall, Aberfoyle
06-206	Rainy River
06-207	Raleigh Township Hall, Merlin
06-208	Rawdon Township Hall, Harold
06-209	Rear of Yonge and Escott Township Hall, Athens
06-210	Richmond
06-211	Rochester Union Hall, South Woodslee
06-212	Rodney
06-213	Roxborough Township Hall, Warina
06-214	St. Catharines
06-215	Merritton Town Hall, St. Catharines
06-216	St. Mary's
06-217	St. Thomas
06-218	Scott Township Hall, Uxbridge
06-219	Scugog Township Hall, Port Perry
06-220	Seaforth
06-221	Sheffield Township Hall, Tamworth
06-222	Shelburne
06-223	Sherbrooke Municipal Building, Stromness
06-224	Smiths Falls
06-225	Sophiasburgh Town Hall, Demorestville
06-226	South Crosby Township Hall, Elgin
06-227	South Grimsby Township Hall, Smithville
06-228	Milford
06-229	South Sandwich Council Chambers, Oldcastle
06-230	South Sherbrooke Township Hall, Maberly
06-231	Southampton
06-232	Fingal
06-233	Stamford Township Hall, Niagara Falls
06-234	Stanley Township Hall, Varna
06-235	Stayner
06-236	Stephen Community Centre, Crediton
06-237	Sterling
06-238	Stratford
06-239	Strathroy
06-240	Sullivan Community Hall, Desboro
06-241	Teeswater
06-242	Thamesville
06-243	Thorald
06-244	Thurlow Township Hall, Cannifton
06-245	Tilbury West Township Hall, Comber
06-246	Toronto
06-247	York County Court House, Toronto

06-248	Tottenham
06-249	Trenton
06-250	Tyendinaga Community Hall, Melrose
06-251	Usborne Township Hall, Exeter
06-252	Wainfleet
06-253	Walkerton
06-254	Warwick
06-255	Waterford
06-256	Watford
06-257	Wellesley Township Hall, Crosshill
06-258	Wellington
06-259	West Flamborough Township Hall, Greenville
06-260	West Lorne
06-261	Westport
06-262	West Wawanosh Township Hall, St. Helen's
06-263	Willoughby Township Hall, Niagara Falls
06-264	Winchester
06-265	Windham
06-266	Wingham
06-267	Wolfe Island
06-268	Wolfred Township Hall, Easton's Corners
06-269	Woodstock
06-270	Woodville
06-271	Wroxeter
06-272	Yarmouth Township Hall, St. Thomas
06-273	Zone Township Hall, Zone Centre

Manitoba (07)

07-001	Argyle Municipal Office, Baldur
07-002	Birtle
07-003	Boissevain
07-004	Carberry
07-005	Carman
07-006	Dauphin
07-007	Dauphin
07-008	Deloraine
07-009	Emerson
07-010	Mossey River Municipal Offices, Fork River
07-011	Hartney
07-012	Taché Municipal Offices, Lorette
07-013	Archie Municipal Offices, McAuley
07-014	Miniota Town Hall, Miniota
07-015	Neepawa
07-016	Springfield Municipal Office, Oakbank
07-017	Pipestone Municipal Offices, Reston
07-018	Ritchot Municipal Offices, St. Adolphe
07-019	Ste. Anne
07-020	St. Boniface
07-021	Lorne Municipal Offices, Somerset
07-022	Rockwood Municipal Office, Stonewall
07-023	Strathclair
07-024	Virden
07-025	West St. Paul
07-026	Winnipeg Beach

Saskatchewan (08)

08-001	Abbey
08-002	Arcola
08-003	Asquith
08-004	Assiniboia
08-005	Battleford
08-006	Bengough
08-007	Biggar
08-008	Caron
08-009	Ceylon
08-010	Craik
08-011	Duck Lake
08-012	Eston
08-013	Fillmore
08-014	Foam Lake
08-015	Gull Lake
08-016	Hanley
08-017	Hazlet
08-018	Kipling
08-019	Lemberg
08-020	Lloydminster
08-021	Macklin
08-022	Melville
08-023	Moosomin
08-024	Mortlach
08-025	Outlook
08-026	Pangman
08-027	Perdue
08-028	Prince Albert
08-029	Qu'appelle
08-030	Radisson
08-031	Regina Beach
08-032	Rosthern
08-033	Saskatoon
08-034	Scott
08-035	Sintaluta
08-036	Star City
08-037	Strasbourg
08-038	Swift Current
08-039	Wapella
08-040	Watrous
08-041	Watson
08-042	Weyburn
08-043	Whitewood
08-044	Wilkie Town Hall
08-045	Wolseley
08-046	Morris Municipal Office, Young
08-047	Zealandia

Alberta (09)

09-001	Bassano
09-002	Calgary
09-003	Castor
09-004	Champion
09-005	Coleman
09-006	Drumheller
09-007	Edmonton
09-008	Fort Saskatchewan

09-009	Medicine Hat
09-010	Mirror
09-011	Morinville
09-012	Stavely
09-013	Wainwright

British Columbia (10)

10-001	Agassiz
10-002	Armstrong
10-003	Chilliwack
10-004	Chilliwack
10-005	Cloverdale Public Library, Surrey
10-006	Cranbrook
10-007	Delta Historical Museum, Ladner
10-008	Enderby
10-009	Kaslo
10-010	Merritt
10-011	Mission City
10-012	Port Moody
10-013	Rossland
10-014	Saanich
10-015	Salmon Arm
10-016	Sandon
10-017	Surrey
10-018	Trail
10-019	Victoria

NOVA SCOTIA (02)

02-001 Annapolis Royal Town Hall
Saint George Street
Built in 1922[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: city hall, police station and apartment; 2nd floor renovated for apartment in 1971.

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[1] Philip W. Dondale, Regional Director, Annapolis-Digby Assessment Region, Department of Municipal Affairs, correspondence, 12 October 1978.

02-002 Berwick Town Hall
Commercial Street
Built in 1926[1]; Roy Peltau, architect[1]; L.E. Woodworth, builder[1]; stucco
Original use: town hall, fire station, school room, police department; present use: police department and some town offices

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[1] Edwin Jones, Town Clerk and Treasurer, Berwick, N.S., correspondence, 31 August 1978.

02-003 Digby Town Hall
First Avenue
Built ca. 1890[1]; architect unknown[1]; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall; about to be demolished

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[1] Philip W. Dondale, Regional Director, Annapolis-Digby Assessment Region, Department of Municipal Affairs, Annapolis Royal, N.S., correspondence, 12 October 1978.

02-004 Dominion Town Hall
Commercial Street
Built ca. 1909[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall, fire station, police station, office for superintendent of schools; present use: town hall and office for superintendent of schools; fire department and police station moved out in 1960s; numerous internal renovations

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[1] Bruce Clark, Town Clerk, Dominion, N.S., telephone interview, 24 July 1978.
Photo: CIHB, John Schmidt

02-005 Glace Bay Town Hall
McKeen Street
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall, police station
present use: town hall; numerous internal renovations

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[1] Town Clerk's Office, Glace Bay, N.S., telephone interview, 20 July 1978.
Photo: CIHB, John Schmidt.

02-006 Halifax City Hall
1861 Argyle Street
Built between 1887 and 1890[1]; Edward Elliott, architect[1]; Rhodes, Curry & Co., contractor[1]; granite and freestone
Original use: city hall, lockup, court room[2]; present use: city hall; numerous internal renovations

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[1] Phyllis R. Blakeley, *Glimpses of Halifax*, (Belleville: Mika, 1973), pp. 70-1.
[2] Ibid., p. 124; *Acadian Recorder*, (Halifax), 23 May 1890, p. 3.
Photo: CIHB.

02-007 Hantsport Town Hall
3 Oak Street
Built ca. 1900[1]; Edward Borden, architect (?)[1]; George Sullivan and Lloyd Marsters builders (?)[1]; wood
Original use: town hall, fire station; present use: town hall, Oddfellows and Rebecca Lodge, police station; fire station moved out ca. 1961, renovated

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[1] Mr. McGinn, Town Clerk, Hantsport, N.S., telephone interview, 24 July 1978; correspondence, October 1979.
Photo: CIHB, C.A. Hale.

02-008 Liverpool Town Hall
221 Main Street
Built between 1901 and 1902[1]; Herbert E. Gates, architect[1]; Joseph Silver, contractor[1]; wood
Original use: town hall, library, offices for county nurse, provincial magistrate, V.O.N., Municipality of Queens County,[1]; registry of deeds[2]; present use: town hall; recently renovated

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[1] Ronald V. Levy, Assistant Director, Shelburne-Queens Assessment Region, Liverpool, N.S., correspondence, 12 October 1978.
[2] David P. Clattenburg, Town Clerk and Treasurer, Liverpool, N.S., correspondence, 2 August 1978.
Photo: Metropolitan Toronto Library Board.

02-009 Lunenburg County Court House; former Bridgewater Town Hall
80 Pleasant Street, Bridgewater
Built between 1892 and 1893[1]; George (or Fred) Boehner, architect[1]; builder unknown; wood

Original use: county court house, registry office[1], town offices; present use: county court house[2];

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1 C.A. Hale, "Lunenburg County, Court House, Bridgewater, N.S.," Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1977.
2 Site examination, October 1979.
Photo: CIHB, C.A. Hale.

02-010 Lunenburg County Court House and Lunenburg Town Hall

119 Cumberland Street
Built between 1891 and 1892[1]; Henry Busch, architect[1]; builder unknown
brick and sandstone
Use: county court, municipal, judicial and town offices[1]

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1 C.A. Hale, "Lunenburg County, Court House, Lunenburg, N.S.," Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1977.

02-011 New Waterford Town Hall

Built ca. 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown
wood
Use: town hall

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1 Town Clerk's Office, New Waterford, N.S., telephone interview, 24 July 1978.

02-012 Former Port Hawkesbury Town Hall

322 Granville Street, Port Hawkesbury
Built ca. 1900[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall
present use: professional offices, (rented); major internal renovations

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1 Colin MacDonald, Town Clerk, Port Hawkesbury, N.S., correspondence, August 1978.

02-013 Stellarton Town Hall

250 Foord Street
Built in 1930[1]; L.R. Fairn, architect; Dan A. MacDonald, builder[1]; brick and sandstone
Original use: town hall, court room, police department, fire station[2]; present use: town hall, court room, police department[2]

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1 Town Clerk, Stellarton, N.S., telephone interview, December 1978.
2 Site examination, October 1979.
Photo: CIHB, C.A. Hale.

02-014 Sydney Mines Town Hall

112 Main Street
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; cement blocks
Use: town hall, police offices and miscellaneous offices

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1 Town Clerk, Sydney Mines, N.S., telephone interview, December 1978.

02-015 Civic Building

730 Prince Street, Truro
Built in 1913[1]; L.R. Fairn Ltd., architect[1]; builder unknown; brick and sandstone
Use: town hall and court room; internal renovation in 1951

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1 J.W. Tattrie, Director of Assessment, Colchester Region, Truro, N.S., correspondence, 10 October 1978.
Photo: CIHB, Carsand-Mosher.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (03)

03-001 Charlottetown City Hall

100 Queen Street
Built between 1887 and 1888[1]; Phillips & Chappell, architect[1]; W.H. Fraser, contractor[1]; brick and stone
Use: city hall, fire station, police offices[1,2]; addition (for fire station) in 1961

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1 Irene L. Rogers, "Charlottetown City Hall (03101000600100)," Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1974
2 "The New City Building," Daily Examiner (Charlottetown), 8 January 1888
Photo: CIHB.

NEW BRUNSWICK (04)

04-001 Former Carleton Public Hall

Guilford Street; Saint John
Built between 1863[1] and 1864[2]; Matthew Stead, architect[3]; J.C. Littlehale and John Wilson, contractors[4]; brick and stone
Original use: town hall, water and sewage department, lockup, police department, concert hall[5]; present use: community centre; third storey replaced with mansard roof ca. 1920, recent renovations[5]

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1 New Brunswick Museum. Saint John, Common Council Minutes (hereafter cited as NBM, S.J. Common Council). 28 January 1863, p. 559.
2 Ibid., 31 March 1863, pp. 633-4; Report of the

Special Committee of the Common Council of the City of Saint John, 1895, pp. 118-9.
3 NBM, S.J. Common Council. 20 August 1863, p. 967.
4 Ibid., 4 February 1863, pp. 560-1; 31 March 1863, pp. 633-4; 14 April 1863, pp. 645-6.
5 Fred Miller, 740 Beaconsfield Avenue, Saint John, N.B., telephone interview, 8 June 1979.
Photo: CIHB, Christopher Cooper.

04-002 Fredericton City Hall

397 Queen Street
Built between 1875 and 1876[1]; McKean & Fairweather, architects[1]; Crosby & Campbell, contractors[1]; Boston pressed brick with freestone trim
Original use: city hall, opera house market[1], police department and lockup[2]; present use: city hall; addition in 1976; renovated in 1952-53 and 1977

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1 Weekly Telegraph (Saint John), 16 February 1876.
2 Fred H. Phillips, "Early Theatre, Days in the Capital Are Recalled by Fred Segee," Daily Gleaner, (Fredericton), 17 September 1958.
Photo: HRS.

04-003 Town of St. George Municipal Building

School Street
Built ca. 1904[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: town hall, fire station; lockup, police department[1]

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1 Mr. V.A. Meating; Town Clerk and Treasurer; St. George, N.B., January 1979.

04-004 Saint John City Hall

116 Prince William Street
Built between 1877 and 1879[1]; McKean & Fairweather, architects[1]; J.G. McDonald & Co., contractor[1]; George Blake, plumbing; Bowes, Campbell & Ellis, heating[2]; William Seaborne, coat of arms[3]; brick & freestone (New Brunswick Freestone Co.)
Original use: city hall; present use: vacant; renovated in 1908[4]

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1 "The New City Hall," Daily Telegraph (Saint John). 30 May 1878, p. 3.
2 Ibid. 18 April 1879, p. 3.
3 "A Handsome Piece of Carving," Daily Telegraph (Saint John); 12 February 1879, p. 3.
4 Construction, Vol. 1 (January 1908), p. 63.
Photo: CIHB.

QUEBEC (05)

05-001 Hôtel de ville d'Arthabaska

841, boulevard Bois-Francs sud
Built in 1904[1]; Grégoire (?), architect[1]; A. Hean et Cie., contractor[2]; brick
Use: town hall; exterior renovations in 1967

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1 Procès-verbaux des séances du conseil municipal d'Arthabaska, meeting of 9 December 1903, p. 20.
2 Ibid., meeting of 7 January 1904, p. 22.

05-002 Mairie de Bolton-Est

Built ca. 1867[1]; architect unknown; built by voluntary labour[1]; clapboard
Use: town hall, school

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1 Ann Côté, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-003 Mairie de Bryson

Route 301
Built ca. 1925[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, library, fire hall

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1 Yvan Saunders, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-004 Hôtel de ville du Cap-de-la-Madeleine

10, rue Hôtel de ville
Built between 1919 and 1920[1]; Jules Caron, architect[1]; W. Wilbrod Rousseau, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, police station, fire hall, apartment[1]; present use: town hall, police station, fire hall; exterior alterations between 1967 and 1968[1]

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1 J.E. Biron, archivist of the Société d'histoire du Cap-de-la-Madeleine, telephone interview, 1978.

05-005 Hôtel de ville de Chambly

601, rue Hôtel de ville
Built in 1912[1]; Victor Raymond and council members, designers[1]; Victor Raymond, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, post office, police station, community hall; present use: town hall, police station

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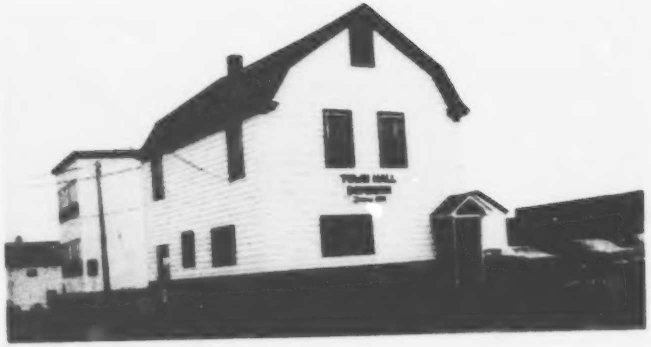
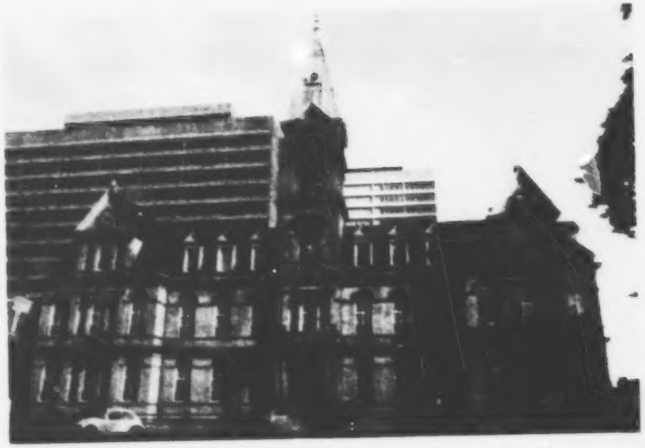
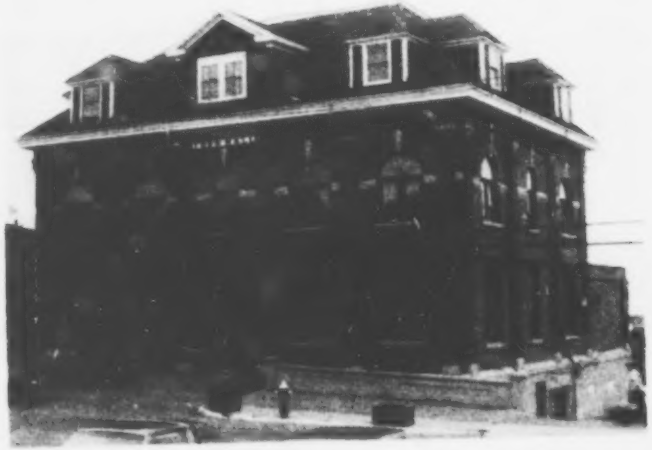
1 Procès-verbaux des séances du conseil municipal de Chambly, meeting of 4 March 1912.
Photo: CIHB.



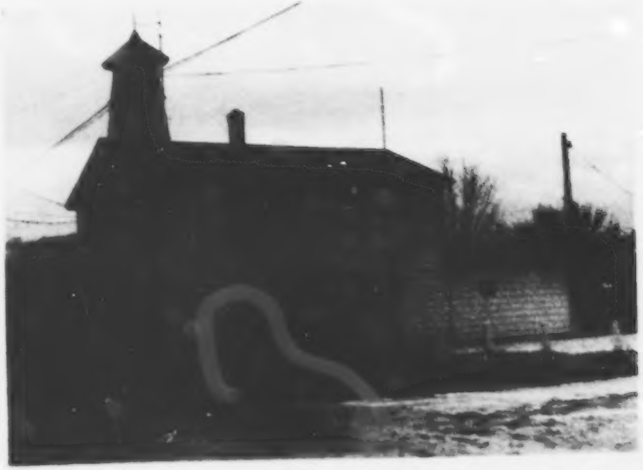
02-004 Dominion, N.S.



02-006 Halifax, N.S.



02-005 Glace Bay, N.S.



02-007 Hantsport, N.S.

Liverpool, N. S.
Town Hall

02-008 Liverpool, N.S.

02-009 Lunenburg County Court House; former Bridgewater Town Hall, Bridgewater, N.S.

02-013 Stellarton, N.S.

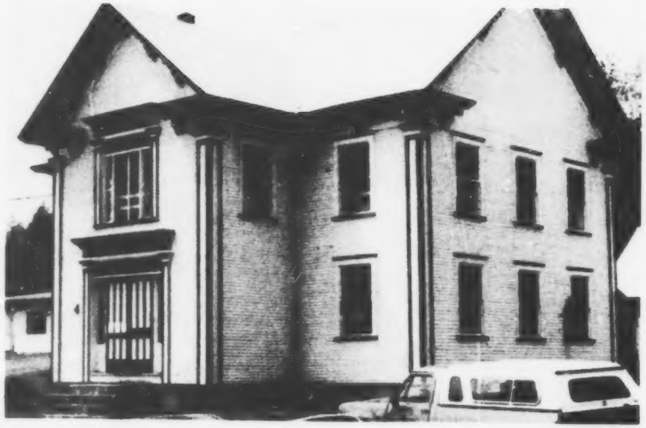
02-015 Truro, N.S.

03-001 Charlottetown, P.E.I.

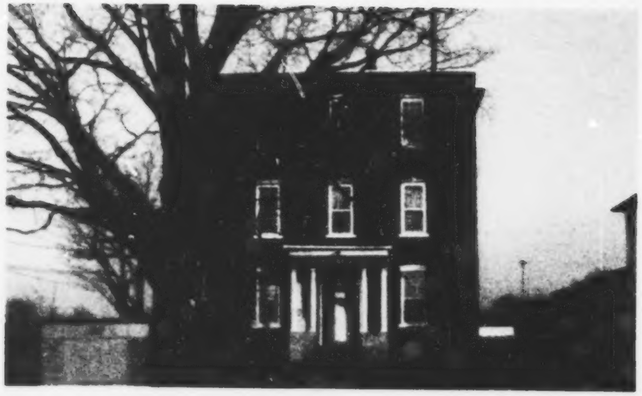
04-002 Fredericton, N.B.

04-001 Carleton Public Hall, Saint John, N.B.

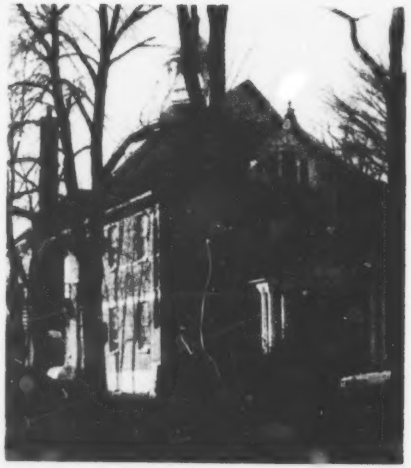
04-004 Saint John, N.B.



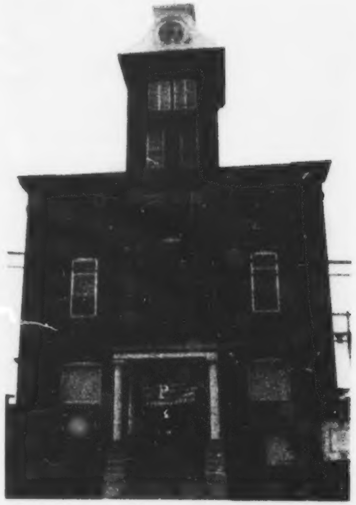
05-002 Bolton-Est, Que.



05-010 Dunham, Que.



05-005 Chambly, Que.



05-011 Farnham, Que.

05-006 Hôtel de ville de Chandler
35, rue Commerciale ouest
Built in 1916[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: town hall, police station; enlargement between 1956 and 1957[1]

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[1] J.-Arthur Arsenault, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-007 Mairie de Chénéville
106, rue Hôtel de ville
Built in 1898[1]; Henri Lefebvre, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; exterior renovations in 1974

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[1] Joseph Lyrette, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-008 Former hôtel de ville de Coaticook
168, rue Lovell, Coaticook
Built in 1864[1]; Lyman Shurtleff, architect[1]; Richard Baldwin Jr., builder[1]; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: residence

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[1] Roma Fluet, Clerk, telephone interview, 1978.

05-009 Hôtel de ville de Dorion
190, rue Saint-Charles
Built in 1927[1]; Trudel et Brais, architects[1]; Elzéar Lalonde, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; exterior renovations in 1960[1]

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[1] Marcel Bellefeuille, municipal engineer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-010 Hôtel de ville de Dunham
411, rue Principale
Built in 1869[1]; John Dent, architect[1]; John Dent, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, lodge; present use: town hall

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[1] Procès-verbaux des séances du conseil municipal de Dunham, meeting of 1 May 1869, p. 120.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-011 Hôtel de ville de Farnham
477, rue Hôtel de ville
Built in 1912[1]; Napoléon Roy, architect[1]; Municipal public works, builder[2]; brick
Use: town hall, police station, fire hall

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[1] Procès-verbaux des séances du conseil municipal de Farnham, year 1912, p. 91.
[2] Ibid., pp. 103-4.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-012 Mairie de Franklin
Built in 1867[1]; architect unknown; Adams and Kirkland, builders[1]; stone
Use: town hall

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[1] Guy Frappier, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-013 Mairie de Frelighsburg
Built in 1856[1]; architect unknown; Elijah Kemp, builder[1]; wood, brick, sheet metal
Use: town hall; renovation and enlargement in 1913[2]

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[1] Procès-verbaux des séances du conseil municipal de Frelighsburg, meeting of 1 September 1856.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 12 March 1913.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-014 Hôtel de ville de Grand'Mère
333, 5e avenue
Built in 1901[1]; McDuff et Dufresne, architects[1]; Aimé Ally, builder[1]; brick, stone, steel
Original use: public market, town hall; present use: town hall; exterior renovations in 1978

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[1] Jean-Denis Larouche, municipal employee, telephone interview, 1978.

05-015 Mairie d'Havelock
Route 232
Built in 1868[1]; Charles Gordon, architect[1]; Thomas Sanders, builder[1]; stone
Use: township hall

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[1] Corner stone.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-016 Mairie d'Hébertville-Station
2, rue Tremblay
Built in 1930[1]; Lamarre (?), architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, Department of Agriculture office; renovated in 1963[1]

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[1] Yvon Baril, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.
Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-017 Hôtel de ville d'Hudson
481 Main Road
Built in 1906[1]; Randolph C. Betts, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, community centre

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[1] Louise Villandré, Clerk, telephone interview, 1978.

05-018 Former mairie d'Old Chelsea
Hull-Ouest, Québec
Built in 1876[1]; architect unknown; Isaac Cluff, builder[2]; stucco on wood
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

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[1] Edmond J. Ryan, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.
[2] Lucien Brault, Hull, 1800-1950 (Ottawa: Éditions de l'Université d'Ottawa, 1950), p. 45.

05-019 Mairie d'Inverness
1760, chemin Arthabaska
Built in 1890[1]; T. and J.A. McKenzie, architects[1]; William McVetty, builder[1]; brick and stone
Original use: court house, town hall, registry office.; present use: town hall, registry office; addition in 1890[1]

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[1] André Giroux, "Les palais de justice de la province de Québec, de ses origines au début du vingtième siècle." Manuscript on file, NHPS, Ottawa, 1977, n.p.

05-020 Hôtel de ville de Lachine
1800, boulevard Saint-Joseph
Built between 1914 and 1916[1]; Viau et Venne, architects[2]; Elphège Bourbonnais, contractor[3]; brick
Original use: city hall, fire hall, police station; present use: city hall

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[1] Normand Moussette, archivist, telephone interview, 1978.
[2] Procès-verbal des délibérations du conseil municipal, meeting of 4 June 1914, Vol. 12, p. 363.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 1 October 1914, Vol. 13, p. 13.
Photo: HRS.

05-021 Mairie de La Pérade
230, rue Sainte-Anne
Built in 1916[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall

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[1] M. Marchand, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-022 Mairie de L'Ascension
9, rue Hôtel de ville
Built in 1925[1]; Arthur Lavoie, designer[1]; Joseph Boily, builder[1]; wood and sheet metal
use: town hall; renovated in 1948

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[1] Livre des délibérations de la municipalité de l'Ascension, meeting of 15 June 1925.

05-023 Hôtel de ville de La Tuque
558, rue Commerciale
Built in 1913[1]; J.E. Charest, architect[1]; Joseph Elie Tremblay, builder[1]; wood, brick
Use: city hall; renovations and enlargement in 1965

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[1] Lucien Filion, Mayor, telephone interview, 1978.

05-024 Hôtel de ville de Longueuil
100, rue Saint-Charles ouest
Built in 1908[1]; Maurice Perrault, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: city hall; renovated in 1954

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[1] Robert Rumilly, Histoire de Longueuil (Longueuil: Société d'histoire de Longueuil, n.d.), pp. 286-7.

05-025 Mairie de Melbourne
Built in 1869[1]; architect unknown; John Wood, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1969[1]

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[1] Thomas Gilchrist, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.
Photo: CIHB.

05-026 Hôtel de ville de Montréal
275, rue Notre-Dame est
Built between 1872 and 1978[1]; H.M. Perrault and Alex C. Hutchison, architects[1]; Laberge et Fils, contractors[1]; stone, steel frame
Use: city hall; rebuilt and enlarged between 1922 and 1926, exterior renovations in 1934, enlargement in 1952[1]

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[1] André Giroux, "275 est, rue Notre-Dame (Hôtel de ville de Montréal)." Manuscript on file, NHPS, Ottawa, n.d., pp. 1-5.
Photo: HRS.

05-027 Former hôtel de ville de Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End
5100, boulevard St-Laurent, Montréal
Built in 1904[1]; Emile Vanier, architect[2]; Carrière et Frères, contractors[3]; stone and brick
Original use: town hall, police station, fire hall, bank, post office; present use: fire hall, police station

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[1] Archives de la ville de Montréal, "L'Hôtel de ville de St-Louis-du-Mile-End," n.d., n.p.
[2] Procès-verbaux des assemblées du conseil municipal de Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End, Vol. 6, p. 61.
[3] Ibid., p. 83.
Photo: HRS.

05-028 Former Hôtel de ville de Maisonneuve (Institut du Radium)
4120, rue Ontario, Montréal
Built in 1912[1]; C. Dufort, architect[2]; Marius Dufresne, contractor[2]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant; additions in 1926[3]

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[1] Archives de la ville de Montréal, "L'Institut du Radium," n.d., n.p.
[2] Procès-verbaux des assemblées du conseil de la municipalité de Maisonneuve, 1912, box 43.
[3] Jean-Pierre Gauthier, Atelier d'histoire de Maisonneuve, telephone interview, 1978.

Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-029 Former hôtel de ville de Montréal (Marché Bonsecours)
300, rue Saint-Paul est, Montréal
Built between 1845 and 1852[1]; William Footner, architect[1]; Munro and Co., Kelly and Co., contractors [1]; stone
Original use: city hall, public market, theatre; present use: office building repairs in 1892 and 1966; enlargement in 1892, renovations in 1898, 1913, 1964, 1966; reconstruction of cupola between 1976 and 1977[2]

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[1] Archives de la ville de Montréal, "Rapport du comité spécial," 20 August 1851, n.p.; E.Z. Massicotte, "L'Hôtel de ville, au Marché Bonsecours," Une réception sous Jacques Viger (Montréal: n.p., 1940), pp. 25 and 28.
[2] Archives de la ville de Montréal, "Le Marché Bonsecours," n.d., n.p.

Photo: HRS.

05-030 Former hôtel de ville de Sainte-Cunégonde (Centre Workman)
2450, rue Workman, Montréal
Built between 1904 and 1905[1]; C. Dufort and Alphonse Piché, architects[1]; H. Martin, contractor[1]; stone
Original use: town hall, post office, police station, fire hall; present use: community centre; renovated in 1965

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[1] Archives de la ville de Montréal, "L'Hôtel de ville de Ste-Cunégonde," n.d., n.p.

Photo: CIHB.

05-031 Hôtel de ville de Montréal-Nord
4242, place de l'Hôtel de ville
Built in 1916[1]; Arthur Saint-Louis, architect[1]; J.A. Charette, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall
enlargement and renovations in 1978

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[1] Jean-Guy Thémens, City Manager, telephone interview, 1978.

05-032 Hôtel de ville de Montréal-Ouest
50, rue Westminster sud
Built in 1897[1]; M. McLaren, architect[1]; D.F. Deslauriers and Reed, McGregor, Reed, contractors[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1910[1]

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[1] Archives de la ville de Montréal-Ouest, "Information concerning the construction of the Town Hall, 1910-1921," pp. 21-3.

05-033 Mairie d'Ormstown
81, rue Lambton
Built in 1900[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall; enlargement between 1965 and 1966[1]

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[1] Jean-Claude Marcil, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-034 Mairie de Papineauville
277 Papineau
Built in 1863[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stucco, wood
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall, fire hall, office enlargement in 1924 and renovations in 1969[1]

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[1] Jean-Guy Dubois, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-035 Hôtel de ville de Plessisville
1700, rue Saint-Calixte
Built in 1923[1]; P. Painchaud, architect[1]; A. Olivier, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1978

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[1] Benoit Laliberté, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-036 Former mairie d'Eardley
Pontiac
Built in 1877[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood, brick
Original use: town hall; present use: municipal offices; addition in 1971[1]

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[1] Jacques Ledoux, Clerk-Treasure, telephone interview, 1978.

Photo: CIHB, M. de Caraffe.

05-037 Mairie de Mansonville
Potton
Built in 1925[1]; architect unknown; built by voluntary labour[1]; brick
Use: town hall, store, meeting room

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[1] J.-Eddy Lessard, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-038 Hôtel de ville de Québec
2, rue Desjardins
Built between 1895 and 1896[1]; Tanguay et Vallée, architects[1]; J.B. Jinchereau, Ignace Bilodeau and J.B. Gingras, contractors[2]; stone
Use: city hall; enlarged in 1929[3]

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[1] *Le nouvel hôtel de ville: documents concernant la construction, la pose de la pierre angulaire et l'inauguration solennelle du nouvel hôtel de ville* (Québec: Geo. Vincent et Frère, 1896), p. 33.
[2] Ibid, p. 39.
[3] Ginette Noël, City Archivist, telephone interview.
Photo: CIHB.

05-039 Mairie de Rawdon
446, rue Queen
Built in 1926[1]; Joseph Kinshella, architect[1]; Eddy Booth and Albert Brouillette, builders[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, bank, telephone centre; present use: town hall, fire hall; addition in 1949[2]

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[1] Marcel Fournier, *Rawdon, 175 ans d'histoire* (Joliette: Imprimerie Saint-Viateur de Joliette, 1974), pp. 106-7.
[2] Raymond Préville, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-040 Hôtel de ville de Rimouski
205, rue de la Cathédrale
Built between 1929 and 1930[1]; Héliodore Laberge, architect[1]; Zénon Ouellet, contractor[1]; brick
Use: city hall, fire hall; enlarged and renovated in 1978[2]

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[1] *Le Progrès du Golfe* (Rimouski), 17 October 1930, p. 6.
[2] J.-C. Ouellet, Finance Director, telephone interview, 1978.

05-041 Mairie de Ripon
Rue Principale
Built in 1904[1]; architect unknown; built by voluntary labour[1]; wood, stone
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall, fire hall; addition ca. 1956[1]

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[1] René Lafontaine, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-042 Hôtel de ville de Rivière-du-Loup
189, rue Lafontaine
Built in 1916[1]; Georges Ouimet, architect[1]; Lachance et Fils, contractors[2]; brick
Use: city hall; renovated and enlarged between 1972 and 1973[3]

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[1] Procès-verbal des séances du conseil municipal de Fraserville, meeting of 10 April 1916, pp. 380-1.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 24 July 1916, pp. 398-9.
[3] Raoul Savard, Clerk, telephone interview, 1978.
Photo: CIHB.

05-043 Hôtel de ville de Roberval
851, boulevard Saint-Joseph
Built between 1928 and 1929[1]; Charles Lafond, architect[1]; Louis Harvey, contractor[2]; brick and stone
Original use: city hall, fire hall, apartment, theatre; present use: city hall

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[1] Procès-verbal des séances du conseil municipal de Roberval, meeting of 24 July 1928, p. 350.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 17 September 1928, p. 373.

05-044 Former hôtel de ville de Roberval (Palais de justice)
750, boulevard Saint-Joseph, Roberval
Built in 1909[1]; Joseph Pierre Ouellet, architect[1]; Albert Naud and P.A. Potvin, contractors[1]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: court house; additions in 1911 and 1953[1]

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[1] André Giroux, "Les palais de justice de la province de Québec, de ses origines au début du vingtième siècle." Manuscript on file, NHPS, Ottawa, 1977, n.p.

05-045 Hôtel de ville de Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts
50, rue Saint-Joseph
Built in 1903[1]; architect unknown; Joachim Reid, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall, apartment; present use: town hall, fire hall; enlarged in 1971[2]

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[1] Edmond Grignon, *Album historique publié à l'occasion des fêtes du cinquentenaire de la paroisse de Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, 1861-1911* (n.p.: Les deux églises, 1912), pp. 96-7.
[2] Marcelle Pellerin, Clerk, telephone interview, 1978.

05-046 Mairie de Sainte-Anne-de-la Pérade
200, rue Principale
Built in 1928[1]; architect unknown; Charles Tessier, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1971[1]

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[1] René Roy, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-047 Édifice municipal de Saint-Guillaume
106, rue Saint-Jean-Baptiste
Built in 1922[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; enlarged in 1970[1]

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[1] Georges-Etienne Amyot, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-048 Hôtel de ville de Saint-Pierre
59, 5e avenue
Built in 1907[1]; Alfred Trudel, architect[1]; A. Vézina, builder[1]; brick, stone
Use: town hall

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[1] G. Goyette, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-049 Hôtel de ville de Saint-Romuald d'Etchemin
1245, rue Commerciale
Built in 1900[1]; Talbot (?), architect[1]; Jean Labrecque, builder[2]; brick covered with stucco
Original use: town hall, apartment, fire hall, jail, bank; present use: town hall, fire hall

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[1] Procès-verbal des assemblées du conseil municipal de Saint-Romuald d'Etchemin, p. 341.
[2] Ibid., pp. 367-8.

05-050 Hôtel de ville de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield
61, rue Sainte-Cécile
Built in 1882[1]; Octave Cossette, designer[1]; Octave Cossette, builder[1]; concrete, glass, brick, stone
Original use: town hall, public market, public hall; present use: city hall; renovated and enlarged in 1961[1]

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[1] Charles Codebecq, Inventaire historique de la Cité de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Ville de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, 1978), p. 18.

05-051 Hôtel de ville de Scotstown
101, rue Victoria ouest
Built in 1924[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Armand Charest, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

05-052 Hôtel de ville de Sherbrooke
145, rue Wellington nord
Built between 1921 and 1922[1]; J.W. Grégoire, architect[1]; Sherbrooke Construction Co. Ltd.; contractor[1]; stone, brick
Use: city hall

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[1] La Tribune (Sherbrooke), 20 February 1923, p. 3.

05-053 Hôtel de ville de Sorel
71, rue Charlotte
Built in 1930[1]; Jean-Baptiste Soucy, architect[1]; builder unknown; concrete panels
Use: city hall; enlarged in 1951 and 1965[1]

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[1] Denis Shooner, municipal employee, telephone interview, 1978.

05-054 Mairie de Stanbridge
Maple Street
Built in 1899[1]; architect unknown; Ari Wescott, builder[1]; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall, fire hall; renovated and enlarged in 1959[1]

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[1] Pamela Realiffe, Société d'histoire de Missisquoi-Missisquoi Historical Society, telephone interview, 1978; Charlotte Wescott, Clerk-Treasurer, telephone interview, 1978.

Photo: Missisquoi Historical Society.

05-055 Hôtel de ville de Sutton
11, rue Principale
Built ca. 1899[1]; architect unknown; built by voluntary labour[1]; brick, wood
Use: town hall, fire hall; renovated in 1912 and 1950[1]

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[1] Cent-cinquantième anniversaire de Sutton 1802-1952, Sesquicentennial of Sutton (n.p.: n.p., 1952), n.p.

05-056 Hôtel de ville de Thetford Mines
144, rue Notre-Dame sud
Built between 1924 and 1925[1]; Wilfrid Lacroix, architect[1]; L.X. Gaudry et Cie, contractor[1]; stone
Use: city hall

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[1] Yves Lamothe, Clerk, telephone interview, 1978.

05-057 Hôtel de ville de Trois-Pistoles
5, avenue Notre-Dame est
Built in 1907[1]; Omer Vézina, architect[1]; Médard Rioux and Cyrice Lebel, builders[1]; brick, stucco
Use: town hall

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[1] Procès-verbal des assemblées du conseil municipal de Trois-Pistoles, pp. 326-7.

05-058 Mairie d'Ulverton
Melbourne, Québec
Built in 1866[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Gérard Prince, "Il faut préserver l'aspect historique d'Ulverton," La Tribune (Sherbrooke), 30 March 1978, p. 9.

Photo: CIHB.

05-059 Former hôtel de ville de Vanier
83, rue Plante, Vanier
Built in 1927[1]; Charles Dumais, architect[1]; C.M. Paradis Ltée, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall, police station; present use: fire hall, police station; enlarged and renovated in 1978

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[1] Procès-verbal des assemblées du conseil municipal de Vanier, meeting of 5 August 1927, p. 223.

05-060 Former hôtel de ville de Verdun
475, rue de l'Église, Verdun
Built in 1908[1]; MacIvar and Hériot, architects[1]; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall; present use: recreation centre

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[1] Jean-Paul Hébert, City Manager, telephone interview, 1978.

05-061 Hôtel de ville de Westmount
4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest
Built in 1922[1]; Robert and F.R. Findlay, architects[1]; Nicholson Construction Co., contractor[1]; stone
Use: city hall

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[1] M. Nurse, municipal employee, telephone interview, 1978.

ONTARIO (06)

06-001 Acton Town Hall
19 Willow Street
Built between 1882 and 1883[1]; J. Mallory of James, Mallory and Mallory, architect[2]; W.A. McCulla, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall; fire hall added ca. 1967

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[1] Ontario Archives, Minutes of Council of the Town of Acton 1883.
[2] Acton Free Press, 5 January 1882; Minutes of Acton Town Council, 3 January 1882.
[3] Minutes of Acton Town Council, 29 March 1883.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-002 Adelaide Township Hall
Egremont Street
Built in 1874[1]; Alexander Hilton, architect[2]; Cooper and Haldane, builders[3]; brick
Use: town hall; addition 1971

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[1] Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Adelaide 1874.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 15 June 1874.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 18 May 1874.

06-003 Adolphustown Municipal Hall
Built in 1840[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame, stuccoed
Use: town hall; addition 1977

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[1] Lennox and Addington Historical Society, Minutes of the Town Meetings of Adolphustown Township 1840-41.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-004 Ailsa Craig Town Hall
Main Street at Queen Street
Built between 1905 and 1906[1]; J.A. Humphris, architect[2]; Norman and Neil McMillan, masons and Samuel Pearson, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and library

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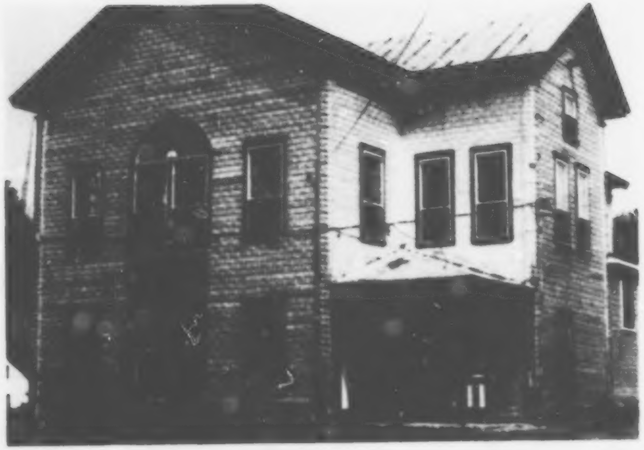
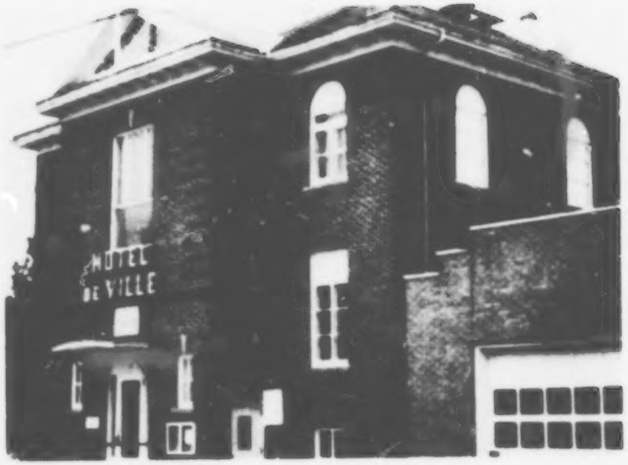
[1] Village of Ailsa Craig, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1904-06.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 26 August 1904.
[3] Ibid., meetings of 17 April and 24 July 1905.

06-005 Almonte Town Hall
14 Bridge Street
Built in 1885[1]; George Willoughby, architect and builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall, library and police station; entrance rebuilt in 1966



05-013 Frelighsburg, Que.


HOTEL DE VILLE

05-016 Hébertville Station, Que.

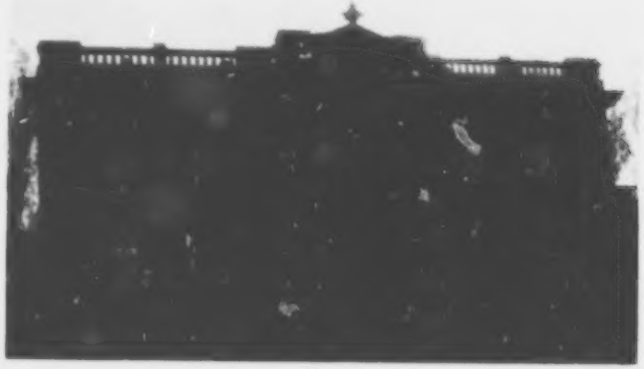
05-015 Havelock, Que.

05-020 Lachine, Que.

05-025 Melbourne, Que.

05-026 Montréal, Que.

05-027 Former city hall of Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End, Montréal, Que.

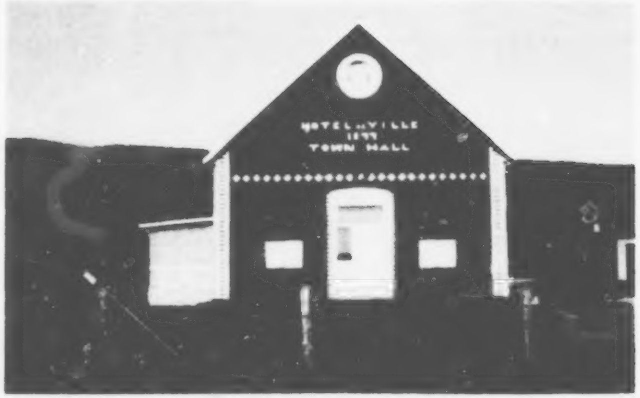


05-028 Former city hall of Maisonneuve, Montréal, Que.

05-029 Former city hall of Montréal, Montréal, Que.

05-030 Former city hall of Sainte-Cunégonde, Montréal, Que.

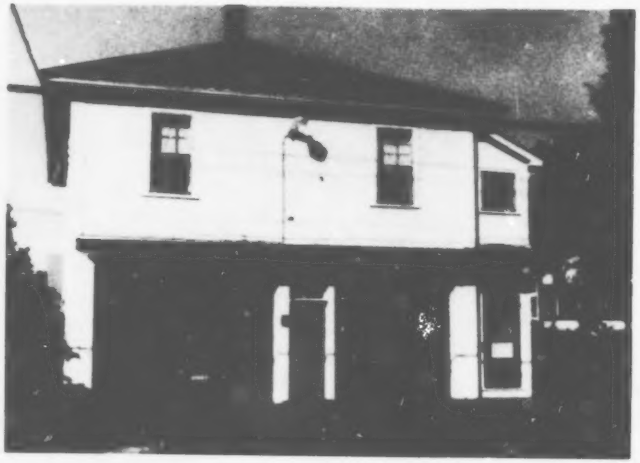
05-035 Plessisville, Que.



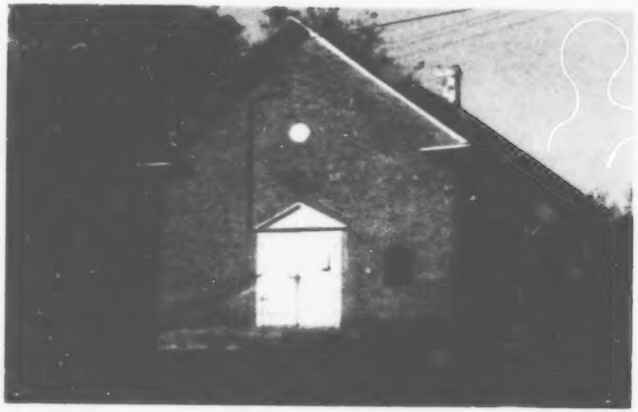
05-036 Former town hall of Eardley, Pontiac, Que.

05-038 Québec, Que.

05-042 Rivière-du-Loup, Que.



05-054 Stanbridge, Que.



05-058 Township hall of Ulverton, Melbourne, Que.

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1 Susan Algie, "Almonte Town Hall," a report prepared for the LACAC, Town of Almonte.

06-006 Alnwick Township Hall
Roseneath
Built in 1861[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and library; renovated and moved

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1 "Two Centuries of Change": The United Counties of Northumberland and Durham (Cobourg: n.p., 1967), p. 14.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-007 Ameliasburgh Municipal Hall
Built in 1874[1]; architect unknown; J.E. Sprague, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; addition for an office in 1967

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1 Prince Edward County Old Boys' Reunion 1837-1937 (Picton: n.p., 1937), p. 24.

06-008 Ancaster Town Hall
300 Wilson Street
Built in 1871[1]; Albert Hills, architect[2]; William Thuresson, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; addition in 1966

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1 Ancaster Township Historical Society, Ancaster's Heritage: A History of Ancaster Township (n.p.: n.p., 1973), pp. 48-9.
2 Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, Cornerstones of Order (Toronto: Clarke Irwin, 1983), p. 210.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-009 Arnprior Town Hall
105 Elgin Street
Built between 1888 and 1889[1]; Andrew Bell, architect[1]; Robert Fleming, builder[2]; William Johnston, plumbing[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and police station; addition in 1978

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1 Town of Arnprior, Clerk's office, Minutes of Council, meeting of 24 June 1888.
2 Ibid., meeting of 10 July 1888.
3 Ibid., meeting of 10 December 1888.

06-010 Arran Township Council Chambers
Arkwright
Built in 1895[1]; J. Dunn, architect[2]; David Steven, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Township of Arran, Clerk's office, minutes of Council 1895.
2 Ibid., meeting of 23 April 1895.
3 Ibid., meeting of 7 May 1895.

06-011 Asphodel Town Hall
Westwood
Built in 1883[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; David Nelson, Joseph Humphries and Michael Walsh, builders[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1950

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1 Township of Asphodel, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1883.

06-012 Athens Municipal and Police Office
Main Street at Elgin Street
Built in 1904[1]; B. Dillon, architect[1,2]; R.A. Sheldon, builder[2]; brick
Use: town hall, police station and library; renovated

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1 Contract Record, Vol. 15 (18 May 1904), p. 2.
2 Letter from Mrs. B.A. Hayes, Clerk of the Village of Athens to CIHB, 30 August 1978.

06-013 Athol Town Hall
Cherry Valley
Built in 1870[1]; Building Committee of Council; designer[1]; Messrs. Court and Lyons, builders[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition 1973

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1 Township of Athol, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1870.

06-014 Augusta Township Hall
Glenmore
Built in 1858[1]; Building Committee of Council; designer[1]; John Row, builder[1]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

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1 Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Augusta 1857-58.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-015 Aylmer Town Hall
38 John Street
Built between 1873 and 1874[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; Waltham of Detroit, frescos[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, post office and library; present use: vacant; addition 1903

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1 Acorn, Vol. 2 (Fall 1977), pp. 13-4.

06-016 Barrie City Hall
84 Collier Street
Built in 1856[1]; Joseph Sheard, architect (probable)[2]; builder unknown; cut stone veneer over brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; renovated in 1873, 1885 and between 1946 and 1948

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[1] Marion Bailey, "The Barrie Market Hall 1856 to 1946: An Architectural History," a report prepared for the LACAC, City of Barrie, April 1976.
[2] Northern Advance (Barrie), 2 November 1856.

06-017 Delta Town Hall
Lower Beverley Lake Park Road
Built in 1880[1]; architect unknown; Masonic Lodge, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall and Masonic Hall; addition ca. 1965

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[1] United Townships of Bastard and South Burgess, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1880-81.

06-018 Bath Town Hall
436 Main Street
Built in 1861[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: museum

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[1] M. Arif, L. Pearson and G. Spragge, Village of Bath, Ontario: Buildings of Architectural and Historical Significance (Kingston: Queen's University, 1976), pp. 36-7.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-019 Beaverton Town Hall
103-105 Simcoe Street
Built between 1910 and 1911[1]; J.H. Sief, architect[2]; R. Almond, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall

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[1] Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Thorah 1910-11.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 5 April 1910.
[3] Contract Record, Vol. 24 (11 May 1910), p. 25.

06-020 Bedford Town Hall
Fermoy
Built ca. 1860[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of Bedford, Records of the Clerk.

06-021 Former Beeton Town Hall, now Beeton Pro Hardware Store
34 Main Street
Built between 1894 and 1895[1]; architect unknown; Arthur Goldsmith, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: store; renovated ca. 1976

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[1] Bert Platt, Beeton 1874-1974, (Grand Valley: Star and Vidette, 1974), p. 77-80.

06-022 Belleville City Hall
Front Street
Built between 1872 and 1873[1]; John D. Evans, architect[2]; John Forin, builder[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; market removed in 1961

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[1] Hastings County Historical Society, Belleville's Heritage: A Partial Inventory of Old Buildings (Belleville: n.p., 1978).
[2] Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, Cornerstones of Order (Toronto: Clarke Irwin, 1983), p. 173.

06-023 Belmont-Methuen Township Hall
Preneveau
Built in 1883[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; N. Preneveau, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; addition in 1966

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[1] The United Townships of Belmont and Methuen, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book 1883.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-024 Former Bertie Township Hall, now Fort Erie Historical Museum
402 Ridge Road, Ridgeway
Built in 1874[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; William Dell, builder[3]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: museum; renovated in 1928 and 1961

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Bertie 1874.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 21 March 1874.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 16 January 1875.

06-025 Beverley Township Hall
Rockton
Built in 1850[1]; Jeremiah Watson and George Wallace, architects[2]; John Milne, Alexander Adair and John Crozier, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Beverley 1850-51.

2 Ibid., meeting of 10 July 1850.
3 Ibid., meeting of 10 August 1850.

06-026 Binbrook Soldiers' Memorial

2600 Highway 56
Built in 1920[1]; architect unknown; Isbister Construction Company; contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition in 1967

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1 Tweedsmuir History: Binbrook Township (n.p.: n.p., 1946).

06-027 Blenheim Township Hall

Drumbo
Built ca. 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; renovated ca. 1960

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1 United Townships of Blandford-Blenheim, Records of the Clerk.

06-028 Bloomfield Town Hall

45 Main Street
Built in 1869[1]; architect unknown; John Thompsett, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1952

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1 Prince Edward County Old Boys' Reunion 1837-1937 (Picton: n.p., 1937).

06-029 Bobcaygeon Fire Hall

Canal Street
Built in 1874[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall, jail and market; present use: fire hall; renovated in 1934

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1 Village of Bobcaygeon, Clerk's Office, "History of the Town Hall, now the Fire Hall," n.d., n.p.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-030 Bothwell Town Hall

323 Main Street
Built between 1915 and 1916[1]; William Elwood, architect[1]; Reid Brothers, contractors[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, library and theatre; present use: town hall, fire hall, library and theatre; fire hall added ca. 1960

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1 Town of Bothwell, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1915-16.

06-031 Bowmanville Town Hall

40 Temperance Street
Built in 1903[1]; J.W. Siddall, architect[2]; William Brock, mason; A. Pennington, carpenter and painter; W.H. Dustan, galvanized metalwork[3]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 H.L. Morison, Bowmanville: A Retrospect (Bowmanville: Bowmanville Centennial Committee, n.d.), pp. 11-2.
2 Contract Record, Vol. 14 (1 July 1903), p. 1.
3 H.L. Morison, op. cit., p. 32.

06-032 Bradford Town Hall

61 Holland Street E.
Built between 1875 and 1876[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame, stuccoed
Original use: town hall, market and library; present use: town hall and court room; renovated in 1891, 1950 and 1978

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1 Town of Bradford, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book 1875.

06-033 Brighton Township Municipal Building

Chatten Road, Hilton
Built between 1860 and 1861[1]; architect unknown; Joseph Adams, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated in 1971

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1 Township of Brighton, Records of the Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-034 Brock Township Hall

Sunderland
Built in 1906[1]; George E. Turner, architect[2]; John Waddell and George Halward, masons; Wilmot Corner, carpenter[3]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Brock 1905-06.
2 Ibid., meeting of 10 March 1906.
3 Ibid., meetings of 10 March and 3 April 1906.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-035 Victoria Hall

1 King Street E., Brockville
Built between 1862 and 1863[1]; Henry H. Horsey, architect[1]; David S. Booth and John Steacey, builders[1]; stone
Original use: town hall, post office and market; present use: town hall; renovated ca. 1885 and in 1912

1 Letter of Douglas Grant, LACAC of City of Brockville to CIHB, 20 September 1978.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-036 Brockville Civic Auditorium
235 King Street W.
Built between 1858 and 1859[1]; John Steacey, architect and builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall and market; present use: theatre; renovated extensively in 1911, 1939 and 1960

1 Letter of Douglas Grant, LACAC of the City of Brockville to CIHB, 20 September 1978.

06-037 Bromley Township Hall
Douglas
Built in 1862[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

1 Township of Bromley, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1862.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-038 Former Caledonia Town Hall, now Caledonia Public Utilities Offices
746 Caithness Street
Built between 1857 and 1858[1]; architect unknown; Bird and Johnson, contractors[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: offices

1 Alexander H. Arrell, ed. A Short History of Caledonia (Caledonia: n.p., 1950), p. 26.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-039 Cambridge City Hall
46 Dickson Street
Built between 1857 and 1858[1]; H.B. Sinclair, architect[1]; H.B. Sinclair and R. Burrowes, builders[1]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; renovated ca. 1885 and between 1963 and 1964

1 James Young, Reminiscences of the Early History of Galt and the Settlement of Dumfries in the Province of Ontario (Toronto: n.p., 1880), p. 260.

06-040 Cambridge Township Hall
1 rue Principale, Casselman
Built in 1897[1]; Council, designer[2]; Dosithe Léger, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall and library; renovated ca. 1970

1 Township of Cambridge, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1897-98.
2 Ibid., meeting of 18 October 1897.
3 Ibid., meeting of 25 October 1897.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-041 Camden East Township Hall
Centreville
Built in 1905[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Robert Saul and George Reid, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1965

1 Camden Township Historical Committee, Camden East Township History 1800-1968 (Centreville: n.p., 1970).
2 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Camden East, meeting of 9 January 1905.
3 Ibid., meeting of 3 July 1905.

06-042 Former Seymour Township Hall, now Campbellford Public Utilities Office
113 Front Street N., Campbellford
Built between 1857 and 1858[1]; John Langham, architect and builder[1]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: office; renovated

1 F.G.B. DeCarrol, ed. Reflections (n.p.: n.p., 1976), pp. 23-7.

06-043 Cannington Town Hall
Built in 1887[1]; architect unknown; Fred Bick, contractor[1]; brick
Use: town hall, police station, fire hall and jail

1 Islay Lambert, Call Them Blessed: A History of Cannington 1817-1971 (Lindsay: John Deyall, 1971), pp. 64-5.

06-044 Capreol Fire Hall
59 Young Street
Built in 1929[1]; C. Carrington, architect[1]; Duncan Construction Co., contractor[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: fire hall and offices

1 Contract Record, Vol. 41 (5 January 1929), p. 48.
2 Ibid., Vol. 43 (6 February 1929), p. 51.
Photo: CIHB, O. Janzen.

06-045 Caradoc Township Hall
55 Adelaide Street, Mount Brydges

Built in 1870[1]; James Mines, architect[2]; Robert Nicholson, contractor[3]; frame, brick veneered
Use: town hall; renovated extensively in 1920

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Caradoc 1870-71.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 9 July 1870.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 6 August 1870.

06-046 Former Cardinal Town Hall, now Local 485 Union Hall

224-226 Lewis Street, Cardinal
Built in 1887[1]; Willis Chipman, architect[2]; Robert M. Stitt, builder[3]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: union hall; renovated ca. 1960

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[1] Village of Cardinal, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1886-88.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 23 February 1887.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 9 January 1888.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-047 Carleton Place Town Hall

175 Bridge Street
Built between 1894 and 1897[1]; George W. King, architect[1]; Michael Ryan, contractor[1]; stone
Use: town hall and fire hall

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[1] Carleton Place Herald, 22 December 1896, p.1.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-048 Cartwright Township Hall

Scugog Street, Blackstock
Built before 1878[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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[1] Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham (Toronto: H. Belden, 1878), p. 52.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-049 Cavan Township Hall

King Street, Millbrook
Built between 1873 and 1874[1]; C. Soule, architect[2]; William Bateson, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1967

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[1] Township of Cavan, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1873-74.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 27 October 1873.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 27 November 1873.

06-050 Charlton Town Hall

Howey Street
Built in 1915[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall and library

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[1] Datestone.
Photo: Nels MacDougall, Englehart

06-051 Charlotteville Community Centre

Walsh
Built in 1868[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition ca. 1965

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[1] Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Charlotteville 1868-69.

06-052 Harrison Hall

55 Wellington Street W., Chatham
Built between 1889 and 1890[1]; Thomas J. Rutley, architect[1]; Courtney L. Babcock, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and county building; present use: museum

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[1] R.S. Woods, Harrison Hall and its Associations (Chatham: n.p., 1896).
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-053 Chesterville Fire Hall

Victoria Street at Mill Street
Built in 1867[1]; Johnson Hill, architect[2]; Henry W. Mode, builder[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and school; present use: fire hall; renovated for fire hall ca. 1935

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[1] Township of Winchester, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1866-68.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 16 April 1867.

06-054 Clarke Township Hall

Main Street, Orono
Built in 1898[1]; G.M. Miller, architect[1]; Robert Gordon, mason; Robert Cowan, carpenter and William J. Walter, painter[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and jail; present use: community hall; clock and bell tower added in 1935

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[1] Helen Schmid and Sid Rutherford, Out of the Mists: A History of Clarke Township (Orono: n.p., 1976), pp. 267-9.

06-055 Clinton Town Hall

23 Albert Street
Built in 1880[1]; George Proctor, architect[1]; W.H. Traves and Mr. Brass, builders[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use:

town hall and fire hall; fire hall added in 1967

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[1] Town of Clinton, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council, meeting of 3 February 1880.
[2] Ibid., meetings of 26 April and 3 May 1880.

06-056 Clinton Township Hall
62 Mountain Street, Beamsville
Built in 1851[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Henry Michner, carpenter; Mark Aaron and Edmund Freid, masons[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: library

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[1] William Rannie, Lincoln: The Story of an Ontario Town (Lincoln: n.p., 1974), p. 8.
[2] Town of Lincoln, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council for the former Township of Clinton, meeting of 27 February 1851.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 15 March 1851.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-057 Former Cobalt Town Hall
21 Silver Street, Cobalt
Built between 1908 and 1909[1]; W.R. Graham, architect[2]; David Hood, builder[2]; frame
Original use: town hall, jail and Oddfellows' Hall; present use: residences and stores; renovated ca. 1924, addition ca. 1940

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[1] Winifred Stoops, A Walk Through Cobalt's Past (Cobalt: n.p., 1972), p. 6.
[2] "Original Town Hall," a report for the LACAC, Town of Cobalt, n.d., n.p.

06-058 Former Cobalt Town Hall, now Timiskaming Testing Laboratory
Presley Street, Cobalt
Built in 1914[1]; Angus and Angus, architect[2]; Hill, Clark and Francis, contractor[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: laboratory

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[1] Winifred Stoops, A Walk Through Cobalt's Past (Cobalt: n.p., 1972), p. 6.
[2] Contract Record, Vol. 27 (10 September 1913), p. 70.

06-059 Victoria Hall
55 King Street W., Cobourg
Built between 1856 and 1860[1]; Kivas Tully, architect[1]; William and David Burnett, contractor; William Thomas, mason and Joseph Moser, frescoes[1]; stone
Use: town hall and court house; cupola repaired in 1899; concert hall renovated 1910, building restoration 1975-79

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[1] P.J. Stokes, "The Preservation of Victoria Hall," Victorian Cobourg, ed. J. Petrysheyn (Belleville: Mika, 1973), pp. 28-55.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-060 Cochrane Town Hall
171 Fourth Avenue
Built in 1908[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Town of Cochrane, Records of the Clerk.

06-061 Former Colborne Town Hall, now Colborne Legion Hall
44 King Street E., Colborne
Built in 1915[1]; Charles W. Chapin, architect[1]; Fred Philips and Charles W. Chapin, builders[1]; concrete block
Original use: town hall, jail, fire hall and library; present use: Legion Hall; renovated extensively in 1963

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[1] Letter from Allan Learmouth, Clerk of the Village of Colborne to CIHB, 18 December 1978.

06-062 Collingwood Town Hall
Dominion Street
Built in 1889[1]; Gibson and Simpson, architects[2]; F.W. Bryan and Bro., contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; renovated in 1891, town clock added in 1950

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[1] Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 2 (June 1889), p. 71.
[2] Ibid., Vol. 3 (November 1890), between pp. 126 and 127.
[3] Enterprise and Collingwood Messenger, 14 November 1889, p. 9.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-063 Collingwood Township Hall
Ravenna
Built in 1872[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; John Grant and John Grier, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Collingwood 1872.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 1 March 1872.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 3 May 1872.

06-064 Cornwall Township Hall
Cornwall Centre Road, Cornwall Centre
Built in 1855[1]; Alexander Bisland, architect[2]; Robert McKay and Alexander Bisland, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1967

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[1] Township of Cornwall, Clerk's Office, Minutes, Bylaws and Accounts 1855-56.
[2] Ibid., minutes of the meeting of 16 April 1855.
[3] Ibid., minutes of the meeting of 19 May 1855.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-065 Cramahe Township Hall
Castleton
Built in 1891[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1978

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[1] Township of Cramahe, Records of the Clerk.

06-066 Dawn Township Hall
Rutherford
Built in 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1940, renovated ca. 1970

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[1] Township of Dawn, Records of the Clerk.

06-067 Derby Township Hall
Kilsyth
Built between 1869 and 1870[1]; Robert Sadler, architect[2]; Sam Hall, builder[3]; frame
Use: town hall; renovated in 1951 and 1960

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Derby 1869-70.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 4 June 1869.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 2 August 1869.

06-068 Former Douro Township Hall
Century Village, Lang
Built in 1871[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: museum; moved and restored in 1967

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[1] Century Village, Lang, Guidebook (Peterborough: n.p., 1979), p. 4.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-069 Downie Township Hall
St. Paul's Station
Built in 1877[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1967

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[1] Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Perth (Toronto: H.R. Page, 1879), p.10.

06-070 Drayton Town Hall
Wellington Street
Built in 1902[1]; George Gray, architect[1]; Adams Brothers and Schick and Flath, builders[1]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and library

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[1] Cornerstone.

06-071 Former Dumfries Township Hall
56-58 Cambridge Street, Cambridge
Built in 1838[1]; architect unknown; Alex Scrimger, carpenter[1]; frame, stuccoed
Use: town hall; present use: residence; moved in 1857, extensively renovated

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[1] Andrew W. Taylor, Our Todays and Yesterdays (Galt: n.p., n.d.)

06-072 Township of Dummer Municipal Building
Warsaw
Built in 1900[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Township of Dummer, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council

06-073 Dundalk Municipal Offices
80 Main Street E.
Built in 1905[1]; J.C. Forster, architect[2]; J. Scilly, mason and Wood and Son, carpenters[2]; brick
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1940

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 15 (22 March 1905), p. 9.
[2] Ibid., Vol. 14 (2 September 1904), p. 1.

06-074 Dundas Town Hall
Main Street
Built between 1848 and 1849[1]; Francis Hawkins, architect[2]; James Scott, builder[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; enlarged ca. 1850, in 1943 and ca. 1970

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[1] Nick Mika, Historic Sites of Ontario (Belleville: Mika, 1974), p. 85.
[2] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Dundas, meeting of 25 July 1848.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 2 August 1848.

06-075 Durham Town Hall
George Street at Queen Street
Built between 1874 and 1875[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Alexander Webster, builder[3]; frame, stuccoed
Use: town hall; moved to present site 1913

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1 Town of Durham, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1874-5.
2 Ibid., meeting of 7 September 1874.
3 Ibid., meeting of 21 September 1874.

06-076 Dutton Community Memorial Centre
99 Main Street
Built between 1896 and 1897[1]; M.L. Buffy, architect[2]; James Munson, mason; James Sangster and Walter Carver, carpenters[2]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and police offices; addition in 1949

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Dutton 1896-97.
2 Ibid., meeting of 29 December 1896.

06-077 East Flamborough Township Hall
25 Mill Street N., Waterdown
Built between 1856 and 1857[1]; Walter Grieves, architect[2]; Walter Grieves, builder (probably)[3]; stone
Use: town hall

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of East Flamborough 1856-58.
2 Ibid., meeting of 20 December 1856.
3 Ibid., meeting of 14 April 1856.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-078 East Hawkesbury Township Hall
St. Eugene
Built ca. 1870[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Township of East Hawkesbury, Records of the Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-079 Eastnor Township Hall
Main Street, Lion's Head
Built in 1898[1]; M.G. Gray, architect[2]; W.H. Lougheed, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Eastnor 1897-99.
2 Ibid., meeting of 19 March 1898.
3 Ibid., meeting of 26 March 1898.

06-080 Hickson Community Library
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; Tavistock Building and Furniture Company, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: library

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1 Township of East Zorra-Tavistock, Clerk's Office, Minutes of the former Township of East Zorra 1905.

06-081 Spencerville Community Hall
County Road 21
Built in 1855[1]; Henry Sims, architect; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and fire hall; renovated in 1861 and between 1947 and 1949, addition ca. 1955

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1 Leeds and Grenville Historical Society, Robinson Papers, plans of the reconstruction of the Edwardsburgh Township Hall 1861.

06-082 Appin Town Hall
48 Wellington Street
Built in 1862[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Duncan Dewar, builder[3]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; moved in 1967, renovated

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1 University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Township of Ekfrid 1861-62.
2 Ibid., meeting of 14 August 1861.
3 Ibid., meeting of 30 December 1862.

06-083 Township of Elizabethtown Municipal Offices
New Dublin
Built in 1890[1]; William J. Gray, architect[2]; William H. Horton, contractor[2]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1967

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1 Township of Elizabethtown, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1890-91.
1 Ibid., meeting of 3 March 1890.

06-084 Elzivir Township Hall
Actinolite
Built ca. 1855[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

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1 Township of Elzivir, Records of the Clerk.

06-085 Embro Town Hall
Huron Street and St. Andrews Street
Built in 1893[1]; architect unknown; Young and

Cawsey, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall and library; addition in 1967

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[1] Township of Zorra, former Village of Embro, Records of the Clerk.

06-086 Englehart Town Hall

Third Street and Fifth Avenue
Built in 1923[1]; architect unknown; P.H. Joanisse, contractor[1]; frame, brick veneered
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: town hall; renovated in 1961

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 37 (28 March 1923) p. 51.

Photo: Nels MacDougall, Englehart

06-087 Eramosa Township Hall

Main Street
Built ca. 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1965

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[1] Township of Eramosa, Records of the Clerk.

06-088 Former Erin Township Hall

Hillsburgh
Built in 1887[1]; architect unknown; John McNally, contractor; John Hunt, mason[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: factory converted in 1962, renovated

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[1] History of Erin Township (Erin: n.p., 1967), p. 60.

06-089 Euphrasia Town Hall

Rocklyn
Built between 1885 and 1886[1]; Council, designer[2]; Yeomans and Little, builders[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: house; converted in 1966, renovated

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Euphrasia 1885-86.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 18 January 1886.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 13 February 1886.

06-090 Former Exeter Town Hall

322 Main Street, Exeter
Built in 1887[1]; George Durand, architect[2]; Ross and Taylor, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: offices; renovated in 1976

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[1] Joseph L. Wooden, Exeter: A History (Exeter: n.p., 1973), p. 234. University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Town of Exeter, Bylaw Book 1887.
[2] Exeter Advocate, Minutes of Council of the Village of Exeter, meeting of 15 November 1887.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-091 Fergus Drill Hall

340 St. Andrew Street W.
Built in 1868[1]; William Grain, architect[2]; Andrew Forrester, mason and William Beattie, carpenter[3]; stone
Original use: town hall, drill and agricultural hall; present use: vacant; extensive interior renovations

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Fergus 1867-69.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 6 August 1868.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 18 August 1868.

06-092 Finch Township Community Hall

Cockburn Street at Pearl Street, Berwick
Built in 1928[1]; architect unknown; Emerson Falkner and Hector Carruthers, contractors[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Pioneer History of Finch Township (n.p.: n.p., n.d.), pp. 18-9.

06-093 Forest Town Hall

14 Main Street N.
Built between 1883 and 1884[1]; David Reibel, architect[2]; James Hyslop, mason and William Garnmon, carpenter[3]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall; addition to façade in 1929, renovated

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[1] Forest Centennial Book 1872-1972 (Forest: n.p., 1972).
[2] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Forest, meeting of 19 February 1884.
[3] Ibid., meetings of 2 and 26 February 1884.

06-094 Fort Erie Municipal Building

200 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie
Built between 1922 and 1923[1]; C.N. Borter, architect[2]; Somerville and Dilworth, contractor[1]; brick
Use: town hall and police office

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 36 (9 August 1923), p. 796.
[2] Ibid., Vol. 35 (11 January 1922), p. 50.

06-095 Front of Escott Township Hall

Escott
Built in 1871[1]; architect unknown; D. Hutcheson, builder[1]; brick

Use: town hall and Masonic Hall; renovated between 1975 and 1976

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[1] Township of Front of Escott, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1871.

06-096 Front of Leeds and Lansdowne Township Hall

James Street, Lansdowne
Built ca. 1873[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall; renovated ca. 1950

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[1] Township of the Front of Leeds and Lansdowne, Records of the Clerk.

06-097 Fullarton Township Hall

32 Main Street, Fullarton's Corners
Built in 1871[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1960

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[1] Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Perth (Toronto: H.R. Page, 1879), n.p.

06-098 Glanbrook Community Hall

3025 Homestead Drive, Mount Hope
Built in 1904[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1975

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[1] Township of Glanbrook, Records of the Clerk.

06-099 Glenelg Township Hall

Priceville
Built in 1879[1]; John Fallis and Thomas McLoughlin, architects and builders[1]; stone
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of Glenelg, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1879.

Photo: CIHB.

06-100 Former Goulbourn Township Hall

Rathwell's Corners
Built in 1873[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: storage

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[1] B.C. Kenny, ed. Country Tales (Ottawa: n.p., 1963), p. 115.

06-101 Former Gravenhurst Town Hall now Gravenhurst Opera House

Muskoka Street St., Gravenhurst
Built between 1900 and 1901[1]; John Francis Brown, architect[2]; F.S. Hurlburt, contractor and William McKay, mason[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and opera house; present use: theatre; renovated in 1965

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[1] Geraldine Coombes, Muskoka: Past and Present (Toronto: McGraw Hill, 1976), p. 60.
[2] Eric Arthur, Toronto: No Mean City (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1964), p. 244.
[3] Contract Record, Vol. 11 (15 August 1900), p. 3.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-102 Grey Township Hall

Ethel
Built in 1892[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition in 1953

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[1] Township of Grey, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1892.

06-103 Guelph City Hall

59 Carden Street
Built between 1856 and 1857[1]; William Thomas, architect[1]; Morrison and Emslie, carpenters; George Netting, mason; Stephen and Pringle, plasterers[1]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; clock tower removed in 1961, renovated

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[1] Leo A. Johnson, History of Guelph 1827-1927 (Guelph: Guelph Historical Society, 1977), pp. 191-201.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-104 Haldimand Township Hall

Grafton
Built in 1858[1]; Thomas F. Nicholl, architect[1]; James Wright, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and bank; renovated

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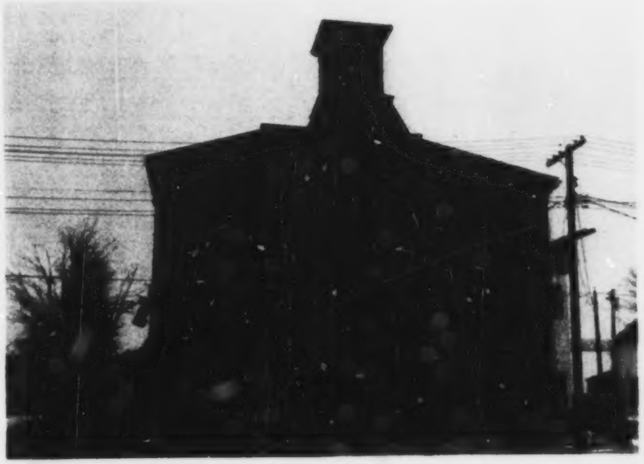
[1] Township of Haldimand, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1858.

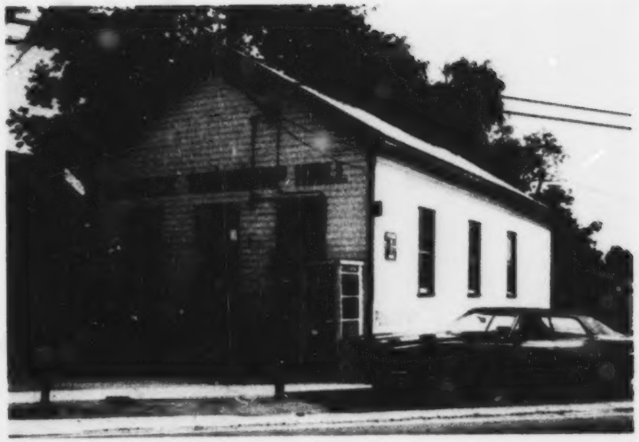
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-105 Hanover Town Hall

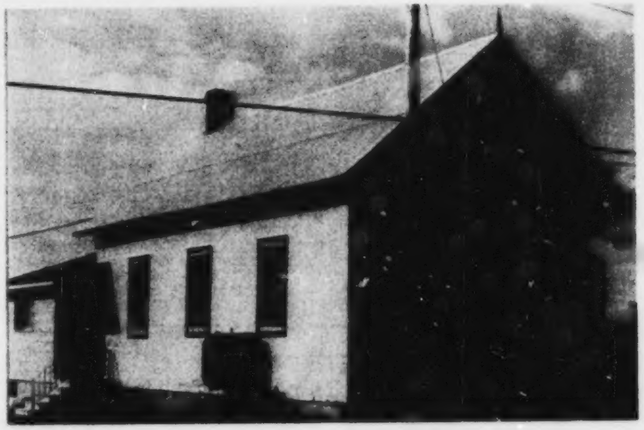
451 Tenth Avenue
Built between 1910 and 1911[1]; Forster and Clark, architects[1]; John L. Young, contractor[1]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall; rebuilt after fire 1937-8; renovated in 1978



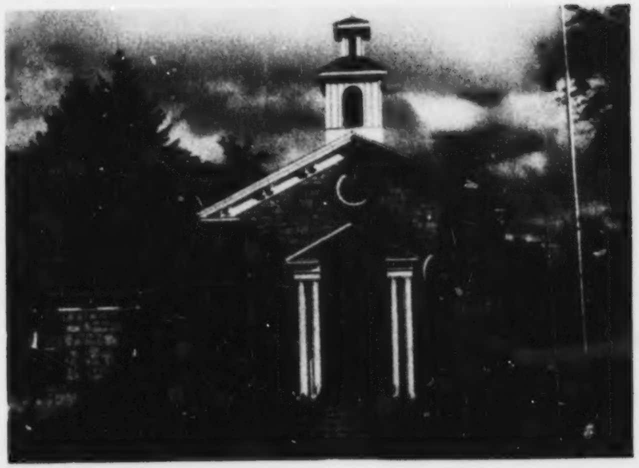
06-001 Acton, Ont.



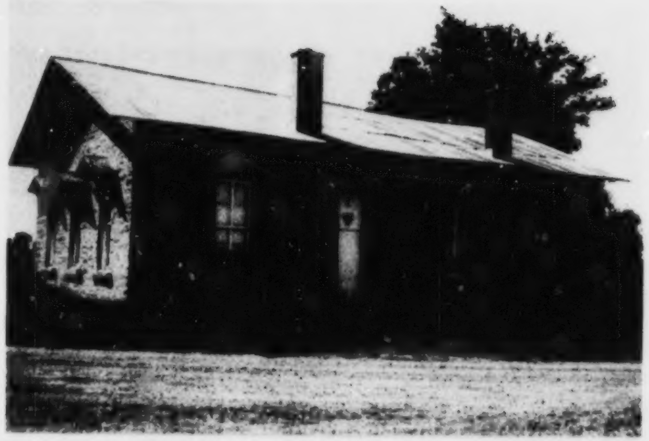
06-006 Alnwick Township Hall, Roseneath, Ont.



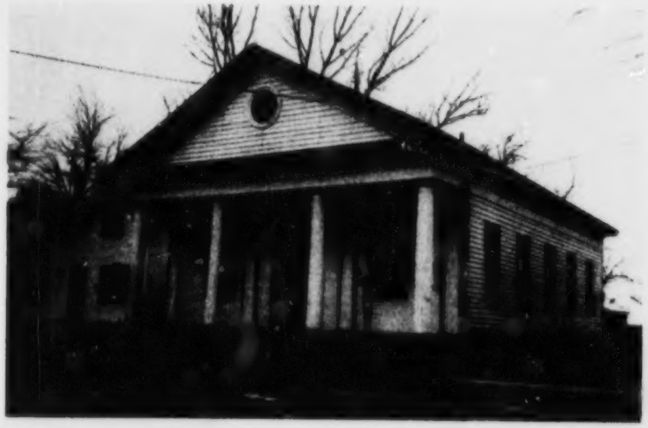
06-003 Adolphustown, Ont.



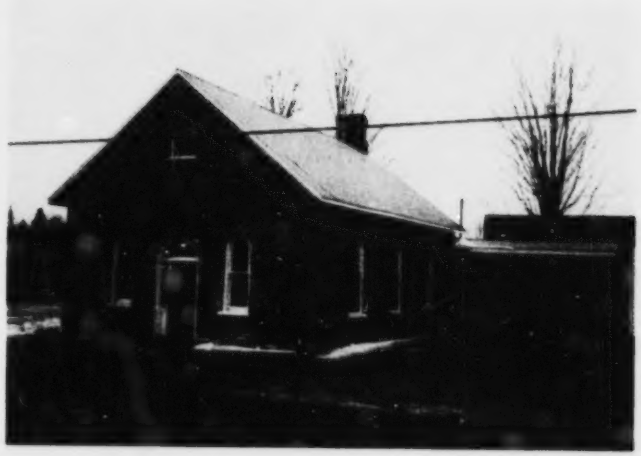
06-008 Ancaster, Ont.



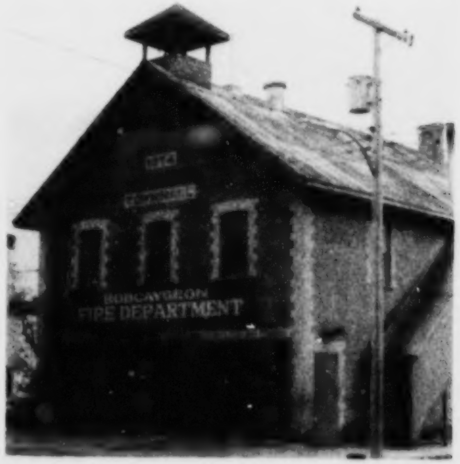
06-014 Augusta Township Hall, Glenmore, Ont.



06-018 Bath, Ont.



06-023 Belmont-Methuen Township Hall, Preneveau, Ont.



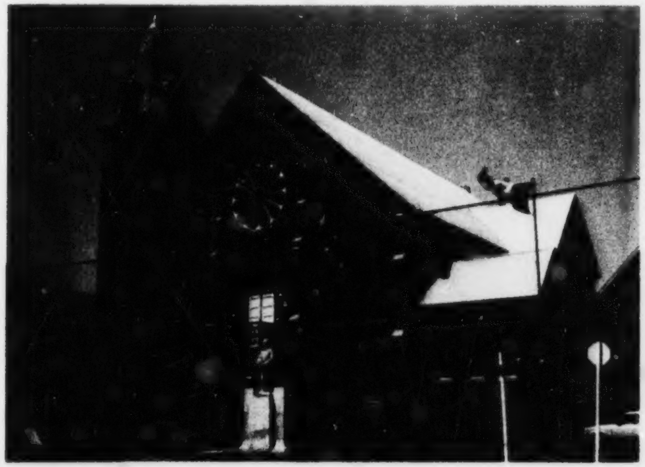
BOBCAYGEON
FIRE DEPARTMENT

06-029 Bobcaygeon, Ont.

BRIGHTON
TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
ERECTED

06-033 Brighton Township Municipal Building, Hilton, Ont.

06-035 Brockville, Ont.



06-034 Brock Township Hall, Sunderland, Ont.

06-037 Bromley Township Hall, Douglas, Ont.

06-038 Caledonia, Ont.

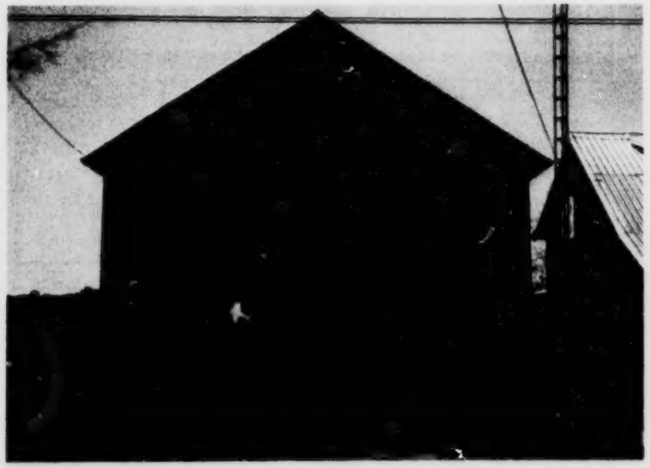
06-044 Capreol, Ont.

06-040
Cambridge Township
Hall, Casselman, Ont.

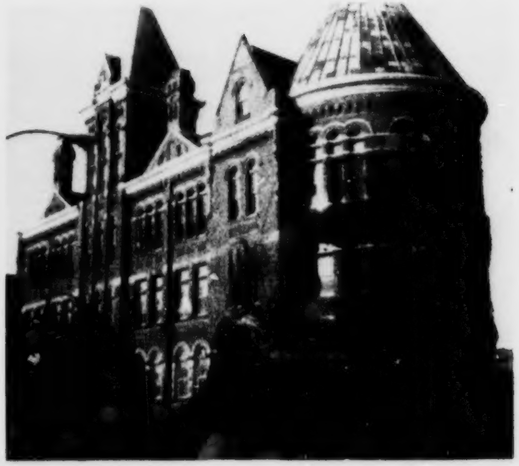
06-046 Cardinal, Ont.

06-047 Carleton Place, Ont.

06-050 Charlton, Ont.



06-048 Cartwright Township Hall, Blackstock, Ont.

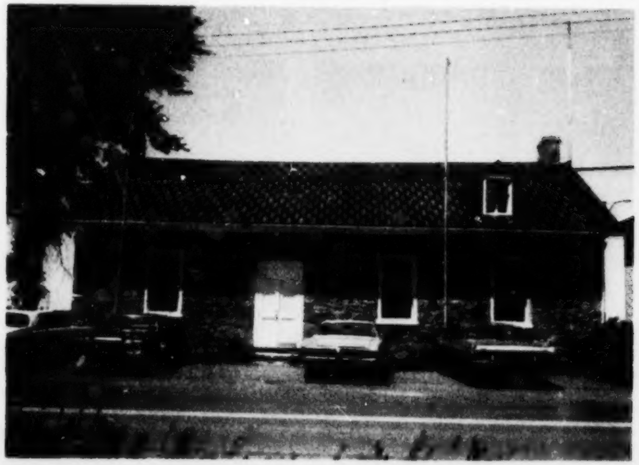


06-052 Chatham, Ont.

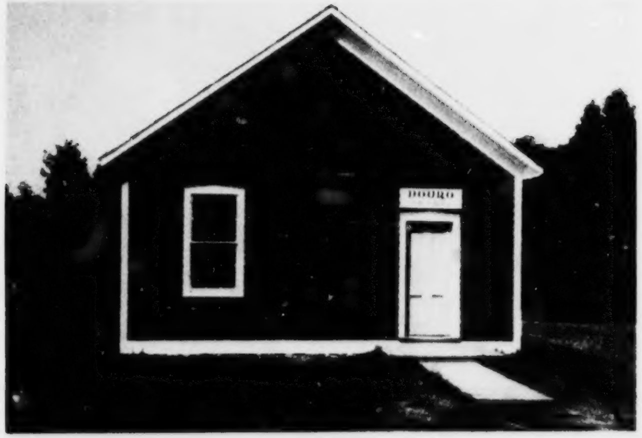
06-056 Clinton Township Hall, Beamsville, Ont.

06-062 Collingwood, Ont.

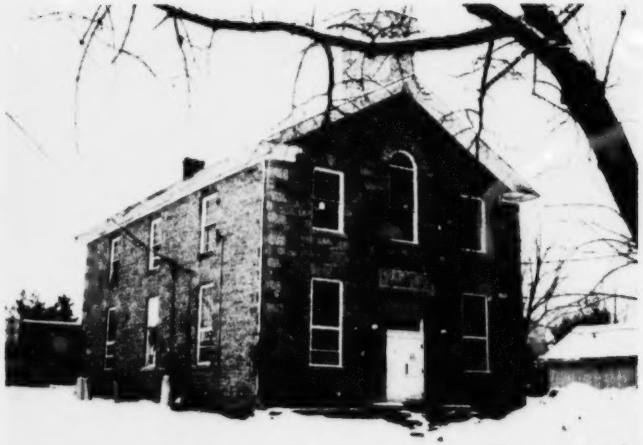
06-059 Cobourg, Ont.



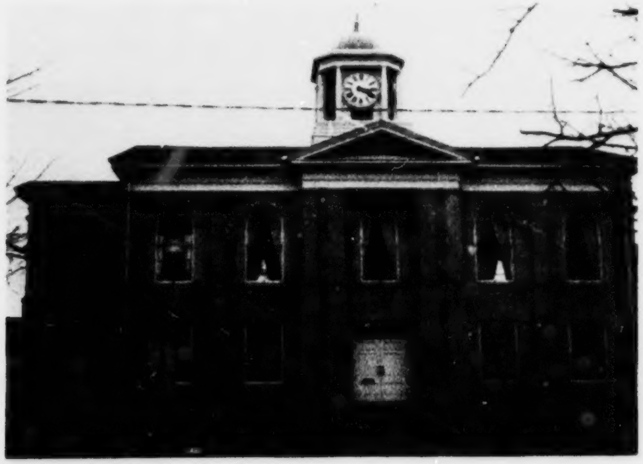
06-064 Cornwall Township Hall, Cornwall Centre, Ont.



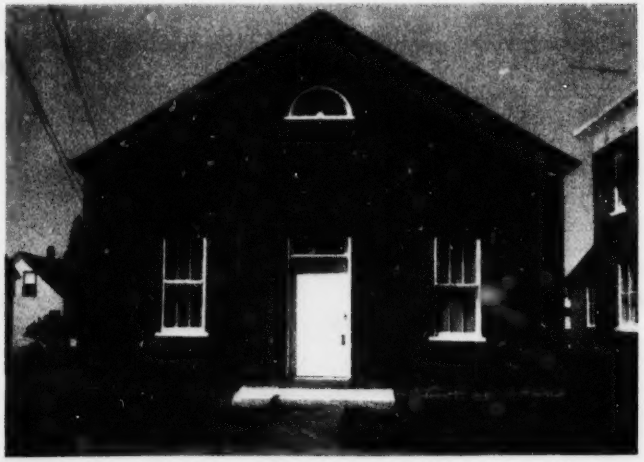
06-068 Douro Township Hall, Lang, Ont.



06-077 East Flamborough Municipal Hall, Waterdown, Ont.



06-074 Dundas, Ont.



06-078 East Hawkesbury Township Hall, St. Eugene, Ont.

06-086 Englehart, Ont.

06-099 Glenelg Township Hall, Priceville, Ont.

06-090 Exeter, Ont.

OPERA HOUSE
ITS COOL INSIDE !

06-101 Gravenhurst, Ont.

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1 Catherine Wenzel, "Hanover Town Hall: Criteria for its Preservation," a report for the LACAC, Hanover, 1978.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-106 Harriston Town Hall
68 Elora Street
Built in 1916[1]; George Gray, architect[2]; Henry and Whitten, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall; renovated in 1978

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1 History of Harriston 1878-1978 (Harriston: n.p., 1978).
2 Town of Harriston, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council, meeting of 8 May 1916.
3 Ibid., meeting of 26 June 1916.

06-107 Hastings Town Hall
72 Albert Street E.
Built in 1897[1]; Wills and Prest, architect[1]; Hanley and Co., contractor[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Trent University Archives, Marryat Papers.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-108 Havelock Town Hall
1 Mathieson Street W.
Built in 1900[1]; architect unknown; Weymark Bros., contractors; T. Bigley, mason and W.J. Wiseman, carpenter[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Havelock Standard, 21 February 1901, of printing the "Report of the Auditor for the Village of Havelock for 1900."

06-109 Hay Town Hall
8 Victoria Street, Zurich
Built in 1890[1]; George Hess, architect[2]; J.C. and H. Kalbfleisch, builders[2]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Township of Hay, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1890-91.
2 Ibid., meeting of 16 April 1890.

06-110 Hensall Town Hall
108 King Street
Built in 1914[1]; W.H. Reynolds, architect[2]; S.S. Cooper, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and library

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1 Village of Hensall, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1914.
2 Ibid., meeting of 6 July 1914.
3 Ibid., meeting of 19 June 1914.

06-111 Former Hespeler Municipal Hall
34 King Street N., Cambridge
Built ca. 1920[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall and fire hall; fire hall added ca. 1970

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1 City of Cambridge, Records of the Clerk.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-112 Hibbert Township Hall
County Road 16, Staffa
Built between 1872 and 1873[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; A.B. Riggs, builder[3]; frame
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1967

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Hibbert 1872-73.
2 Ibid., meeting of 19 February 1872.
3 Ibid., meeting of 18 March 1872.

06-113 Hillier Town Hall
Built in 1867[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Use: town hall; additions ca. 1940 and in 1967

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1 Township of Hillier, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book 1867.

06-114 Picadilly Community Hall
Picadilly Road, Godfrey
Built ca. 1860[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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1 Township of Hinchinbrooke, Records of the Clerk.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-115 Howard Township Hall
57 Main Street E., Ridgetown
Built between 1855 and 1856[1]; George Young, architect[2]; James Ferguson and Sons, contractor[3]; frame, brick veneered
Use: town hall; addition between 1909 and 1910; renovated in 1978

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Howard 1855-56.
2 Ibid., meeting of 24 August 1855.
3 Ibid., meeting of 16 June 1855.

06-116 Howick Community Hall
Main Street, Gorrie
Built in 1885[1]; architect unknown; Walter Clegg, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1949

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[1] R.W.N. Wade, Early History of Howick in Huron County (n.p.: n.p., 1956).

06-117 Former Humberstone Township Hall
76 Main Street, Port Colborne
Built in 1852[1]; John Latshaw, architect[2]; A.K. Sholfield, builder[2]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: offices; addition in 1967

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[1] City of Port Colborne, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council of the former Township of Humberstone 1852.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 16 January 1852.

06-118 Hungerford Township Hall
65 Victoria Street W., Tweed
Built in 1877[1]; John Foley and W.H. Gabourie, architects and builders[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Township of Hungerford, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1877.

06-119 Moira Community Hall
Built in 1850[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: church and community hall

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[1] Township of Huntingdon, Clerk's Office, Bylaw and Minute Book 1830-57, Bylaw No. 10, 13 May 1850.

Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-120 Huntingdon Town Hall
Ivanhoe
Built in 1919[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer, J. Robinson, draftsman[2]; Embury Bros., contractor[3]; frame
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Township of Huntingdon, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1919.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 21 June 1919 and Treasurer's Account Book, entry for 3 November 1919.
[3] Ibid., minutes of the meeting of 4 August 1919.

06-121 Huntsville Town Hall
37 Main Street E.
Built between 1926 and 1927[1]; Ellis and Belfry, architects[2]; Williams Construction Co., contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall and post office; present use: town hall; renovated in 1975

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[1] George F. Hutcheson, Head and Tales (Bracebridge: Herald-Gazette Press, 1972), n.p.
[2] Contract Record Vol. 40 (2 June 1926), p. 45.
[3] Ibid., Vol. 40 (23 June 1926), p. 52.

06-122 Former Huron Township Hall
Blake Street and Christina Street, Ripley
Built in 1874[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; William Colley, builder[1]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; converted ca. 1900

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[1] Robert Courtney and Norval Stuart, Huron and its Hub (Mildmay: Town Crier, 1975), p. 138.

06-123 Huron Township Hall
207 Huron Street, Ripley
Built in 1909[1]; architect unknown; James Rollson, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Robert Courtney and Norval Stuart, Huron and its Hub (Mildmay: Town Crier, 1975), p. 134.

06-124 Former Ingersoll Town Hall
34 King Street W., Ingersoll
Built between 1856 and 1857[1]; William McLean and John McNiven, architects[2]; W.M. Lang, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: museum; renovated ca. 1975

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[1] Nick Mika, Ontario Historical Sites (Belleville: Mika, 1974), p. 120.
[2] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Ingersoll, meetings of 5 December 1856 and 23 August 1857.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 13 December 1856.

06-125 Kenyon Township Hall
Greenfield Road, Greenfield
Built in 1862[1]; Laughlin McGillis, architect[1]; Roderick McMillan, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; rebuilt in 1895, renovated in 1966

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[1] Township of Kenyon, Clerk's Office, Treasurer's Cashbook 1862.

06-126 Kincardine Town Hall
707 Queen Street

Built in 1872[1]; A.J. Evans, architect[2]; D. and R. Donald, builders[3]; brick
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1950

1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Kincardine 1871-73.
2 Ibid., meeting of 30 August 1872.
3 Ibid., meeting of 12 June 1872.

06-127 Kingston City Hall

216 Ontario Street
Built between 1843 and 1844[1]; George Browne, architect[1]; Fisher and Pidgeon, carpenters; Joseph Milner, mason[1]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; market rebuilt in 1865, dome rebuilt in 1908, portico rebuilt in 1966; building restored in 1973

1 Queen's University Archives, City of Kingston Papers, Minutes of the Building Committee 1841-44.
Photo: HRS.

06-128 Kingston Township Hall

935 Sydenham Road, Kingston
Built in 1847[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Use: town hall

1 Township of Kingston, Records of the Clerk.

06-129 Kirkland Lake Municipal Building

28 Prospect Street
Built in 1928[1]; E. Neelands, architect[2]; McDonald and Walker, contractor[2]; brick
Use: town hall

1 S.A. Pain, *Three Miles of Gold: The Story of Kirkland Lake* (Toronto: Ryerson, 1960), p. 71.
2 Town of Kirkland Lake, Clerk's Office. Township of Teck, Minutes of Council 1928.
Photo: Archives of Ontario.

06-130 Kitley Township Hall

Toledo
Built in 1855[1]; Council, designer[1]; William Allen, contractor[1]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated

1 *Brockville Recorder*, 7 May 1856, reprinting of the annual financial statement of the Treasurer of Kitley Township 1855-56.

06-131 Lakefield Municipal Building

Bridge Street
Built between 1919 and 1920[1]; Norman A. Kearns, architect and contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and fire hall; addition in 1967

1 Village of Lakefield, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1919-20.

06-132 Lanark Township Hall

Lanark Road 16, Middleville
Built in 1899[1]; William M. Connors, architect[2]; S. Affleck and W.R. Miller, builders[3]; brick
Use: town hall

1 Township of Lanark, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1899.
2 Ibid., meeting of 11 February 1899.
3 Ibid., meeting of 4 March 1899.

06-133 Lavant Township Hall

McDonald's Corners
Built between 1856 and 1857[1]; architect unknown; Mr. James, builder[1]; frame
Use: town hall; moved and joined to former school, renovated 1978

1 United Townships of Lavant, Dalhousie and North Sherbrooke, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1856.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-134 Laxton Township Hall

Norland
Built in 1904[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

1 United Townships of Laxton, Digby and Longford, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1904.
2 Ibid., meeting of 21 March 1904.

06-135 Lindsay Town Hall

Kent Street W. and Cambridge Street
Built between 1864 and 1865[1]; William Kauffman, architect[2]; J.C. Sutton and Co., contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall, police station and courtroom; west wing added in 1865; extensively renovated

1 Alan R. Capon, *Historic Lindsay* (Belleville: Mika, 1974), p. 19.
2 *Canadian Post* (Lindsay), 10 June 1864.
3 Ibid., 20 July 1864.

06-136 Little Current Public Library
Built ca. 1890[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: library

[1] Town of Little Current, Records of the Clerk.
Photo: Mac Swackhammer, Little Current

06-137 Lobo Township Hall
Grey Street, Coldwater
Built in 1880[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall; renovated in 1969

[1] Letter from Maxwell McLean, of Ilderton, Ont. to CIHB, 10 September 1978.

06-138 Logan Township Hall
Bornholm
Built in 1869[1]; William Featherstone, architect[2]; Jacob Lyons, mason; John Lee, carpenter[3]; frame
Use: town hall; renovated

[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Logan 1868-1870.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 25 January 1869.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 16 February 1869.

06-139 Former London City Hall, now Ye Olde City Hall Restaurant and Tavern
276 Dundas Street, London
Built in 1927[1]; T.C. McBride, architect[1]; Hyatt Brothers, contractor[2]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: restaurant; converted between 1971 and 1972

[1] Contract Record, Vol. 41 (9 February 1927), p. 47.
[2] Ibid., Vol. 41 (15 June 1927), p. 53.

06-140 Aeolian Town Hall
795 Dundas Street, London
Built in 1884[1]; George Durand, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; renovated ca. 1975

[1] Cornerstone.

06-141 Loughborough Town Hall
283 George Street, Sydenham
Built in 1874[1]; James Fonton, architect[1]; William and Hugh Saul, builders[1]; stone
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

[1] Ontario. Archives, Township of Loughborough, Treasurer's Cashbooks 1874-75.

06-142 Former Lucknow Town Hall
Havelock Street at Campbell Street, Lucknow
Built ca. 1873[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: garage; extensively renovated, converted to garage ca. 1940

[1] Village of Lucknow, Records of the Clerk.

06-143 Lucknow Library and Municipal Office
Campbell Street
Built in 1906[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall and library

[1] Village of Lucknow, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1905-06.

06-144 McGillivray Township Hall
West McGillivray
Built in 1874[1]; Council, designer[2]; C. Dunnet and E. Ramsay, builders[3]; brick
Use: town hall

[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of McGillivray 1874-75.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 6 July 1874.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 10 August 1874.

06-145 Madoc Town Hall
107 St. Lawrence Street W.
Built in 1873[1]; architect unknown; L.S. Griffin, builder[2]; brick
Use: town hall; cupola removed in 1975

[1] Village of Madoc, Clerk's Office. Township of Madoc, Minutes of Council and Bylaws 1873-75.
[2] Ibid., minutes of the meeting of 14 March 1874.

06-146 Maidstone Council Chambers
R.R. No. 3, Essex
Built in 1917[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

[1] Township of Maidstone, Records of the Clerk.

06-147 Manvers Township Hall
Bethany
Built in 1912[1]; W. Blackwell, architect[2]; H. Hickey, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; addition 1967

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1 Township of Manvers, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1911-13.
2 Ibid., meeting of 10 February 1912.
3 Ibid., meeting of 23 March 1912.

06-148 March Township Hall

South March
Built in 1901[1]; architect unknown; Humphrey Gow, builder[2]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; renovated

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of March 1901.
2 Ibid., meeting of 14 January 1901.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-149 Mariposa Community Hall

Oakwood
Built in 1875[1]; F.H. Brown, architect[2]; Fred Bick, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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1 Township of Mariposa, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1875.
2 Ibid., meeting of 24 May 1875.
3 Ibid., meeting of 14 June 1875.

06-150 Markham Fire Hall

207 Main Street
Built in 1881[1]; John Anthony, architect[2]; John Nelson, builder[2]; frame
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: fire hall; renovated

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Markham 1881-82.
2 Ibid., meeting of 20 June 1881.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-151 Marlborough Township Hall

Pierce's Corners
Built in 1855[1]; architect unknown; Robert Mackey, builder[2]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; renovated

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1 Township of Rideau, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book of the former Township of Marlborough 1850-55.
2 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Carleton (Toronto: H.R. Page, 1879), p. 12.

06-152 Marmora Town Hall

12 Bursthall Street
Built in 1913[1]; J. Scanlon, architect[2]; day labour, S. Bertrand, supervising mason[3]; stone
Use: town hall

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1 Village of Marmora, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1912-14.
2 Ibid., meeting of 15 April 1913.
3 Ibid., meeting of 2 June 1913.

06-153 Mattawa Town Hall

356 Pine Street
Built ca. 1892[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Town of Mattawa, Records of the Clerk.

06-154 Meaford Town Hall

73 Sykes Street
Built in 1908[1]; J.A. Ellis, architect[2]; James Sparling, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall, police station and theatre; renovated

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1 T.A. Davidson, A New History of the County of Grey (Owen Sound: Grey County Historical Society, 1972), p. 268.
2 Construction, Vol. I (January 1908), p. 45.
3 Contract Record, Vol. 22 (15 July 1908), p. 29.

06-155 Former Merrickville Town Hall

214 Main Street W., Merrickville
Built before 1860[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: abandoned; burned in 1929

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1 "An Act to Incorporate the Village of Merrickville," 23 Vic. c. 74, s. 13.

06-156 Milton Town Hall

251 Main Street E.
Built between 1865 and 1866[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Joseph Martin, contractor[3]; stone
Use: town hall; bell tower removed ca. 1920

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1 Milton Centennial Committee, Town of Milton Centennial Celebrations (Milton: n.p., 1957), pp. 41-2.
2 The Canadian Champion and County of Halton Intelligencer (Milton), 18 May 1865, reporting minutes of Council of the Town of Milton, 12 May 1865.
3 Ibid., 15 June 1865, reporting the minutes of the meeting of 11 June 1865.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-157 Former Minto Township Hall, now St. Thomas Church
Arthur Street, Harriston
Built in 1873[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; Brown and Howes, builders[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: church; renovated

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[1] Ontario. Archives, Minutes of Council of the Township of Minto 1873.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 9 June 1873.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 24 September 1873.

06-158 Montague Township Hall
Roseville
Built in 1874[1]; Council, designer[1]; Richard Locke, builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Township of Montague, Minutes of Council 1874; references provided by Glenn Lockwood of the Montague History Project.

06-159 Morris Township Hall
R.R. No. 3, Walton
Built in 1872[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; William Jackson, builder[1]; frame
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of Morris, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1872.

06-160 Murray Township Community Hall
Wooler
Built in 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition in 1967

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[1] Leona Austin, Wooler: 100 Years Through the Lens of a Camera (Belleville: Mika, 1975), p. 26.

06-161 Napanee Town Hall
Market Square
Built in 1856[1]; Edward Horsey, architect[2]; John Hosey and Mr. Russell, builders[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; renovated in 1976

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[1] Lennox and Addington Historical Society, Historical Glimpses of Lennox and Addington (Napanee: Lennox and Addington County Council, 1964), p. 32.
[2] Lennox and Addington County Museum, Benson Family Papers, Edward Horsey to J. Benson, 5 November 1855.
[3] Ibid., Benson to Horsey, 3 November 1855.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-162 Nassagaweya Township Hall
Guelph Line Road, Brookville
Built in 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Nassagaweya 1875-76 and Miscellaneous Collection, 1875: "Specifications for a Township Hall ...Nassagaweya Township."

06-163 Former Westboro Town Hall
345 Richmond Road, Ottawa
Built in 1896[1]; M.C. Edey, architect[1]; Gilchrist and Buchanan, contractor[1]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 7 (2 April 1896), p. 3.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-164 Newbury Town Hall
83 Hagarty Street
Built in 1888[1]; George W. Durand, architect[1]; C.W. Batt, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and fire hall; renovated ca. 1950

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[1] Letter from T. Ritchie, Clerk of the Village of Newbury to the CIHB, 31 October 1978.

06-165 Newcastle Community Hall
50 King Street W.
Built between 1922 and 1923[1]; Sproatt and Rolph, architect[1]; contractor unknown; brick
Original use: town hall, library and post office; present use: community hall

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[1] Construction, Vol. 16 (November 1923), pp. 380-6.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-166 Newmarket Town Hall
460 Botsford Street
Built between 1882 and 1883[1]; Mallory and Sons, architect[2]; Walter Page, contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: court room and municipal offices

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[1] History of the Town of Newmarket (Newmarket: n.p., n.d.), ch. 40.
[2] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of the Council of

the Village of Newmarket, meeting of 14 August 1882.

3 Ibid., meeting of 14 September 1882.

06-167 Niagara Falls City Hall

4300 Queen Street
Built between 1865 and 1866[1]; John Latshaw, architect[2]; John Brown, contractor[3]; stone, brick veneered
Original use: town hall and market; present use: court room and offices; extensively renovated in 1954

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Clifton (now City of Niagara Falls) 1864-66.
2 Ibid., meeting of 6 February 1865.
3 Ibid., meeting of 5 July 1865.

06-168 Niagara Town Hall

26 Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Built between 1847 and 1848[1]; William Thomas, architect[2]; Garvie and Company, masons; John Davidson, carpenter[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and court house; present use: town hall and theatre

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1 Peter John Stokes, Old Niagara on the Lake (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1971), pp. 88-9.
2 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of the Board of Police of the Town of Niagara, meeting of 9 July 1846.
3 Ibid., meeting of 29 July 1846.

06-169 Nickle Centre Municipal Building

190 Church Street, Garson
Built in 1916[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall; renovated in 1976

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1 Town of Nickle Centre, Records of the Clerk.

06-170 North Fredericksburgh Township Hall

Hamburg Road, Big Creek
Built in 1855[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame, stuccoed
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1955, and renovated in 1977

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1 Lennox and Addington Historical Society, Township of North Fredericksburgh, Records and Minutes 1855.

06-171 Former North Gower Town Hall

North Gower
Built in 1876[1]; Thomas Bruce, architect[2]; John A. Eastman, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: tourist information office; addition constructed and building renovated in 1966

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1 Township of Rideau, Clerk's Office, former Township of North Gower, Minutes of Council 1875-77.
2 Ibid., meeting of 6 January 1876.
3 Ibid., meeting of 17 January 1876.

06-172 North Marysburgh Township Hall

Waupoos
Built in 1872[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Township of North Marysburgh, Records of the Clerk.

06-173 Norwood Town Hall

78 Colborne Street
Built in 1875[1]; architect unknown; William Sargeant, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; additions in 1907 and 1975

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1 Mrs. Wilbur Graham, unpublished notes for a history of Asphodel Township 1978.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-174 Coronation Hall

King Street, Omemee
Built in 1911[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall and library

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1 Howard Pammett, Lillies and Shamrocks (Lindsay: John Deyall, 1974), p. 97.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-175 Onondaga Township Hall

Old Onondaga Road
Built between 1874 and 1875[1]; John Turner, architect[2]; William Knox, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Onondaga 1873-75.
2 Ibid., meeting of 13 December 1873.
3 Ibid., meeting of 3 August 1874.

06-176 Orangeville Town Hall

87 Broadway Avenue
Built between 1875 and 1876[1]; Francis Dunbar, architect[2]; Foster and Clow, contractor[3]; brick

Use: town hall and market; renovated in 1913

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Orangeville 1875-76.
2 Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, Cornerstones of Order (Toronto: Clarke Irwin, 1983) p. 195.
3 Minutes of Council, meeting of 18 August 1875.

06-177 Duart Community Hall

Middle Road
Built in 1870[1]; Daniel McLaren, architect[2]; John Walker, builder[3]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition in 1928, renovated ca. 1970

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Orford 1870.
2 Ibid., meeting of 17 January 1870.
3 Ibid., meeting of 26 February 1870.

06-178 Orillia Opera House

1 West Street N.
Built between 1894 and 1895[1]; Gordon and Helliwell, architect[2]; Hammond and Robinson, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: theatre; reconstructed between 1916 and 1917, addition ca. 1970, restored in 1979

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1 "Orillia City Hall and Opera House," a report of the LACAC, City of Orillia 1979.
2 Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 7 (July 1894), p. 90.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-179 Oro Township Hall

Oro Station
Built in 1868[1]; architect unknown; Jeremiah Whybrew, builder[2]; frame, brick veneered
Use: town hall; renovated in 1929 and in 1967

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1 Township of Oro, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1868.
2 Ibid., meeting of 8 April 1868.

06-180 Osgoode Township Hall

Metcalfe
Built in 1891[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1978

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Osgoode 1890-91.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-181 Oso Township Hall

Garrett Street, Sharbot Lake
Built between 1923 and 1924[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; day labour, builders[1]; frame
Use: town hall

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1 Township of Oso, Records of the Clerk.

06-182 Otonabee Township Hall

High Street, Keene
Built between 1874 and 1875[1]; architect unknown; David Nelson and Messrs. Mein and Dinsdale, builders[2]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 History of the County of Peterborough (Toronto: n.p., 1884), p. 389.
2 D.G. Nelson, ed. Forest to Farm: Early Days in Otonabee (Keene: Otonabee 150th Anniversary Committee, 1975), p. 14.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-183 Oxford-on-Rideau Township Hall

Oxford Mills,
Built in 1875[1]; John Steacey, architect[2]; Ambrose Clothier, builder[3]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated between 1967 and 1970

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1 Township of Oxford-on-Rideau, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1874-76.
2 Ibid., meeting of 23 May 1874.
3 Ibid., meeting of 1 April 1875.

06-184 Oxford West Township Hall

Main Street at Zorra Street, Beachville
Built in 1867[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: office

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1 Township of Southwest Oxford, Records of the Clerk.

06-185 Paisley Town Hall

Goldie Street at Queen Street S.
Built in 1876[1]; William Anstead, architect and builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall and library; extensive restoration in 1978

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1 Village of Paisley, "Designation Report for Paisley Town Hall under the Ontario Heritage Act."
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-186 Former Paris Town Hall, now Mary Maxim Company

11 Church Street, Paris
Built between 1853 and 1854[1]; John Maxwell, architect[2]; Gardner and Strickland, contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: textile mill; major alterations and additions

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1 C.M. Johnston, Brant County: A History (Toronto: Oxford, 1967), p. 47.
2 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Paris, meeting of 18 April 1853.
3 Ibid., meeting of 23 May 1853.

06-187 Pelee Island Town Hall

Built in 1911[1]; architect unknown; John Close, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Marion Hooper, Pelee Island Then and Now (n.p.: n.p., n.d.).

06-188 Penetanguishene Fire Hall and Council Chambers

10 Robert Street W.
Built between 1890 and 1891[1]; J.N. Galt, architect[1]; Alphonse Tessier, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall; addition in 1968

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1 Letter from S.M. Bellehumeur, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Penetanguishene, to CIHB, 25 September 1978.

06-189 Former Percy Township Hall, now Percy Township Library

Church Street at Main Street, Warkworth
Built between 1851 and 1852[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: library; addition and conversion to use as a library ca. 1884

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1 Township of Percy, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book 1850-55.

06-190 Percy Township Hall

44 Main Street, Warkworth
Built between 1883 and 1884[1]; M.B. Aylesworth, architect[2]; Philip Smith and Co., contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated ca. 1970

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1 Township of Percy, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1882-85.
2 Ibid., meeting of 7 January 1885.
3 Ibid., meeting of 10 September 1884.

06-191 Perth Town Hall

80 Gore Street E.
Built between 1863 and 1864[1]; John Power, architect[2]; Alexander Kippen, builder[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall and fire hall; town clock added between 1873 and 1874; fire hall added and renovations between 1972 and 1973

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1 Perth: Souvenir Old Boy's Week (Perth: n.p., 1948), pp. 19-30.
2 Perth Courier, 3 April 1863.
3 Ibid., 1 May 1863.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-192 Former Peterborough City Hall

Simcoe Street at Water Street, Peterborough
Built in 1889[1]; J.E. Belcher, architect[1]; Thomas Rutherford, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: stores; renovated in 1974

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1 Peterborough Examiner, 26 September 1889.

06-193 Victoria Hall

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia
Built between 1887 and 1889[1]; George F. Durand, architect[2]; C.H. Hughson, contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall, opera house, jail and armoury; present use: town hall and theatre; renovated in 1975

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1 Edward Phelps, Petrolia 1874-1974 (Petrolia: Petrolia Print & Litho Co., 1974), p. 32.
2 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Petrolia, meeting of 8 August 1887.
3 Ibid., meeting of 11 August 1887.

06-194 Pickering Township Hall

455 Brock Street, Brougham
Built in 1857[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Pickering 1856-1857.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-195 Picton Fire Hall

68 King Street
Built in 1867[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall and market; present use: fire hall; renovated after fire in 1879

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1 Picton Times, centennial edition, 1954.

06-196 Pittsburgh Township Hall
414 Regent Street, Barriefield
Built in 1886[1]; William Newlands, architect[1]; William Snowden, builder[1]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: library; renovated ca. 1972 and in 1977

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1 Queen's University Archives, William Newlands Papers, "Plan for a Township Hall, Pittsburgh Township, Barriefield."
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-197 Plympton Township Hall
Calamachie
Built in 1868[1]; Mr. Wood and William Donnolly, members of Council, designers[2]; William Longley, builder[3]; frame
Use: town hall

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1 University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Township of Plympton 1868.
2 Ibid., meeting of 1 August 1868.
3 Ibid., meetings of 22 August and 18 December 1868.

06-198 Port Carling Community Hall
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall and library

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1 Leila M. Cope, A History of the Village of Port Carling (Bracebridge: Herald-Gazette Press, 1956), p. 27.

06-199 Port Dover Town Hall
243 Main Street
Built between 1904 and 1906[1]; architect unknown; contractor unknown; Charles Welch, carpenter[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: offices and stores

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1 Irina Farb, "The Town Hall, Main Street, Port Dover," a report of the LACAC, Port Dover, 1978; Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Port Dover 1904-06.

06-200 Port Hope Town Hall
56 Queen Street
Built between 1851 and 1852[1]; Mervin Austin, architect[1]; Philip Fox, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, jail and market; present use: town hall; rebuilt in 1893

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1 W. Arnot Craick, Little Tales of Port Hope (Port Hope: Port Hope Guide Publishing Co., 1966), pp. 7-9.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-201 Former Port Perry Town Hall, now Town Hall 1873
302 Queen Street, Port Perry
Built in 1873[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; renovated ca. 1973

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1 F.G. Weir, Scugog and its Environs (Port Perry: n.p., 1927), p. 378.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-202 Port Stanley Memorial Hall
302 Bridge Street
Built in 1927[1]; J.T. Findlay, architect[2]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Village of Port Stanley, Clerk's Office, Bylaw Book 1927.
2 Contract Record, Vol. 41 (17 August 1927), p. 57.

06-203 Former Portsmouth Town Hall
623 King Street W., Kingston
Built in 1865[1]; William Coverdale, architect[2]; Robert Fisher, carpenter; Nathaniel Langton, mason[3]; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: offices

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1 Queen's University Archives, City of Kingston Papers, Village of Portsmouth Records, Minutes of Council 1864-66.
2 Ibid., meeting of 20 July 1864.
3 Ibid., meetings of 7 and 8 April 1865.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-204 Former Powassan Town Hall, now Powassan Senior Citizens' Hall
Edward Street and Main Street
Built ca. 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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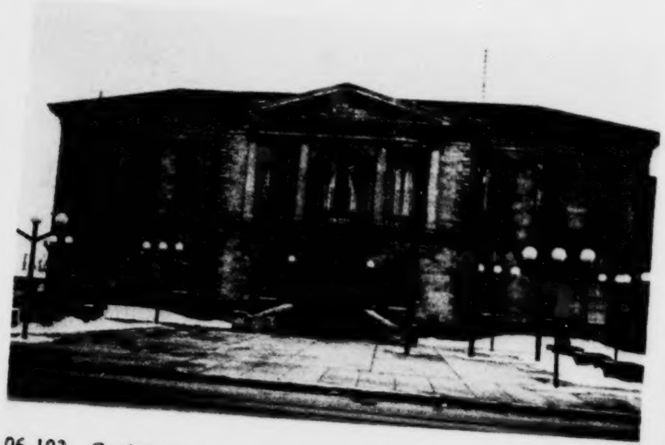
1 Town of Powassan, Records of the Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-205 Former Puslinch Township Hall, now Aberfoyle Community Centre
Aberfoyle

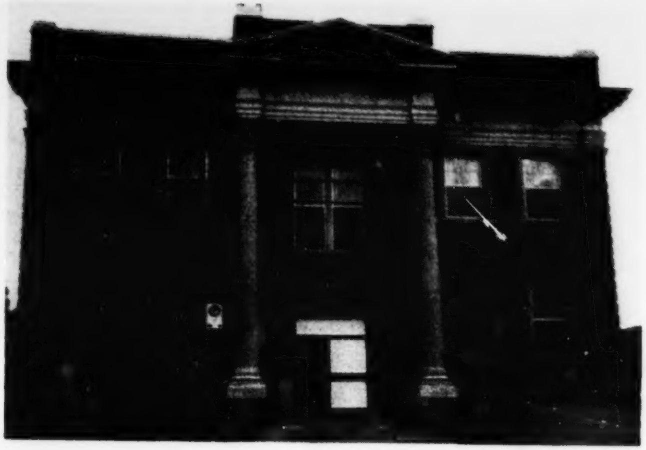


06-103 Guelph, Ont.

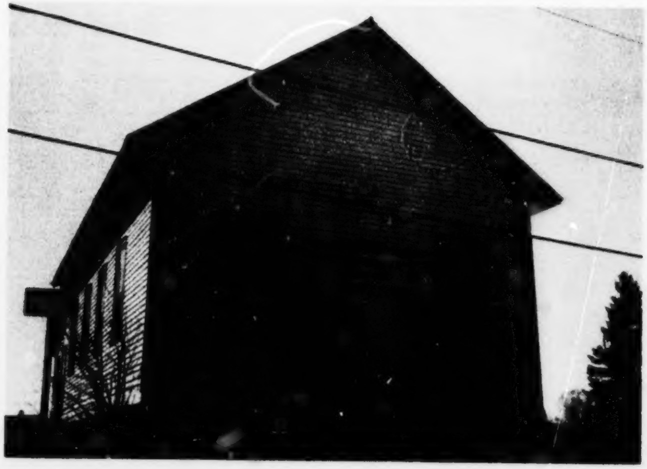
06-105 Hanover, Ont.

06-104 Haldimand Township Hall, Grafton, Ont.

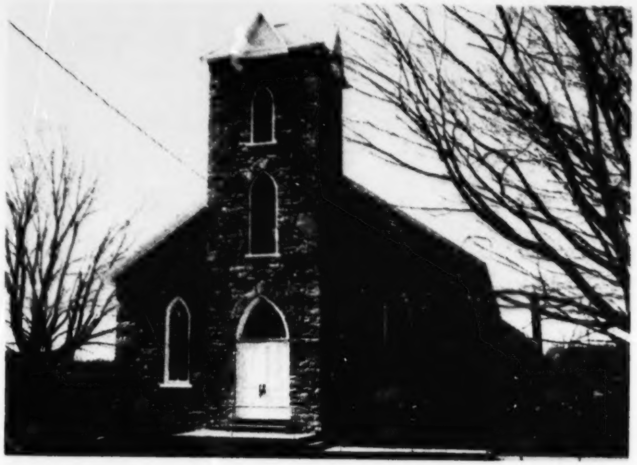
06-107 Hastings, Ont.



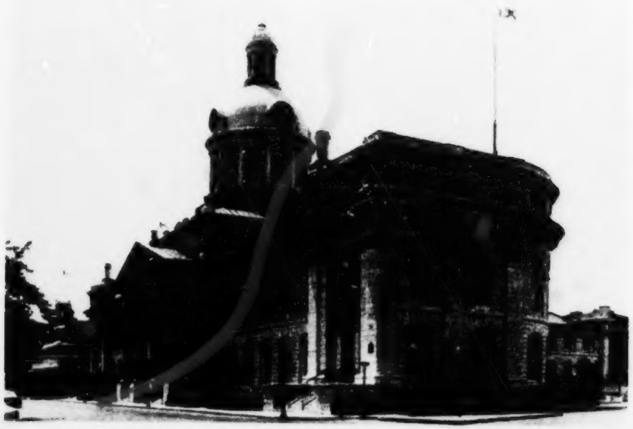
06-111 Hespeler Municipal Hall, Cambridge, Ont.



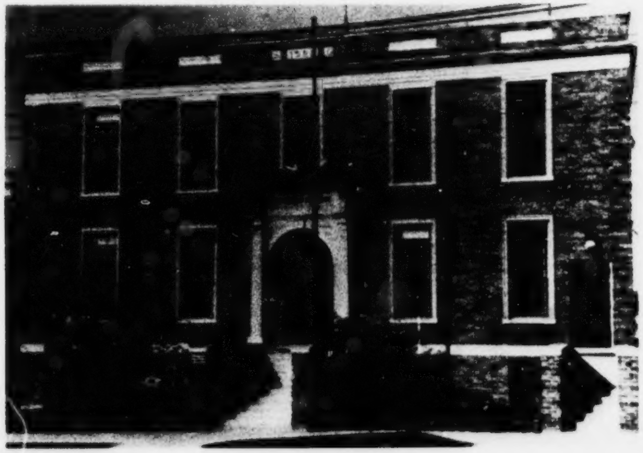
06-114 Picadilly Community Hall, Godfrey, Ont.



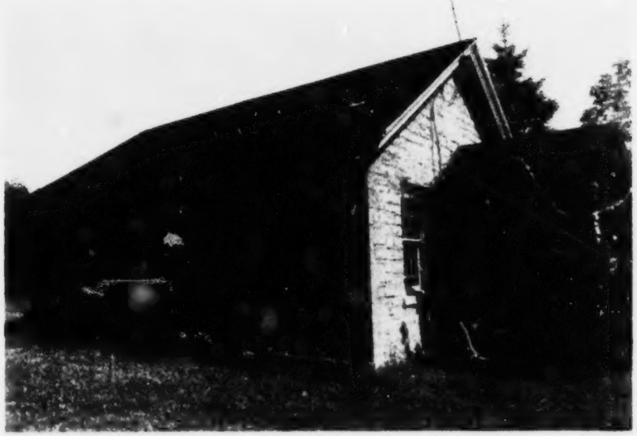
06-119 Moira, Ont.



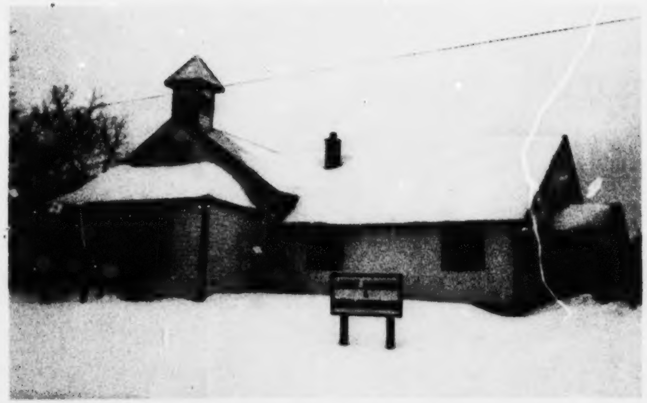
06-127 Kingston, Ont.



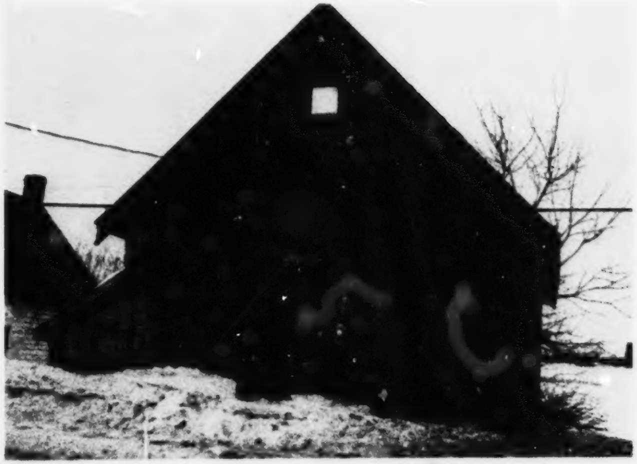
06-129 Kirkland Lake, Ont.



06-136 Little Current, Ont.

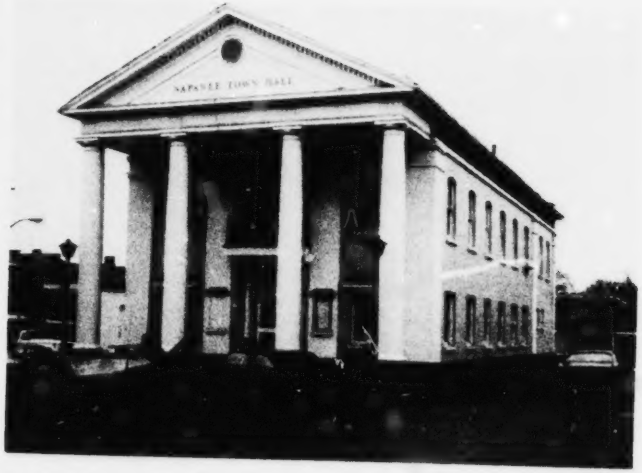


06-133 Lavant Township Hall, McDonald's Corners, Ont.



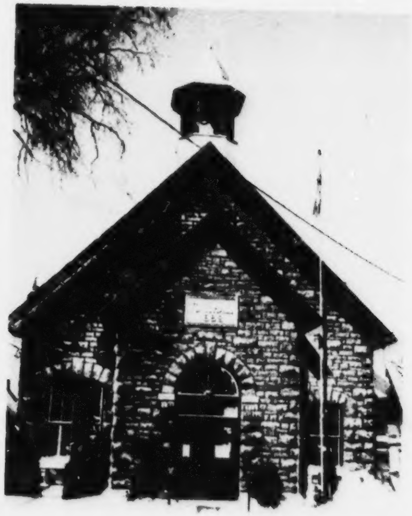
06-148 March Township Hall, South March, Ont.

06-150 Markham, Ont.


NAPANEE TOWN HALL

06-161 Napanee, Ont.

06-156 Milton, Ont.



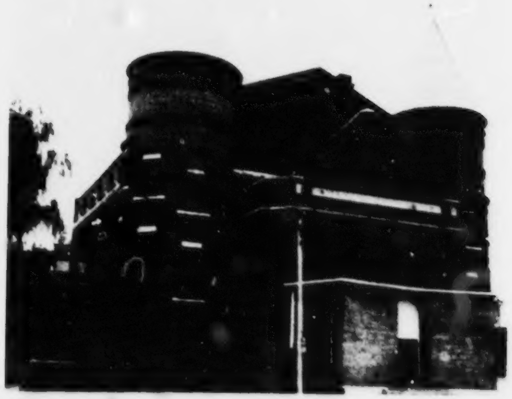
06-163
Westboro Town Hall
Ottawa, Ont.

06-165 Newcastle, Ont.

OMEMEE HALL 1911
PUBLIC LIBRARY

06-174 Omemee, Ont.

06-173 Norwood, Ont.



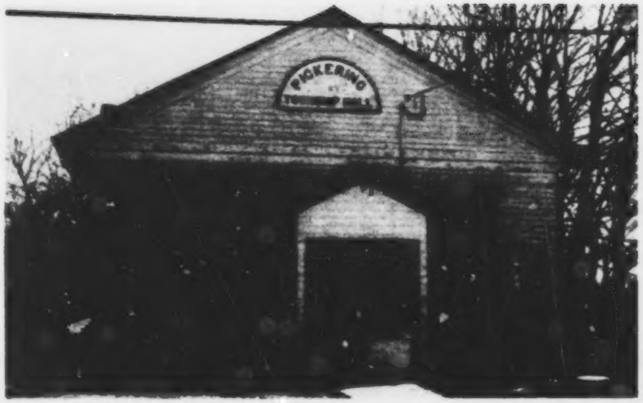
06-178 Orillia, Ont.

06-180 Osgoode Township Hall, Metcalfe, Ont.

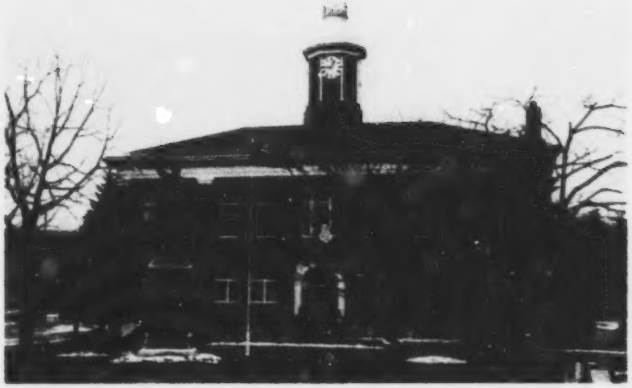
06-185
Paisley, Ont.

06-182 Otonabee Township Hall, Keene, Ont.

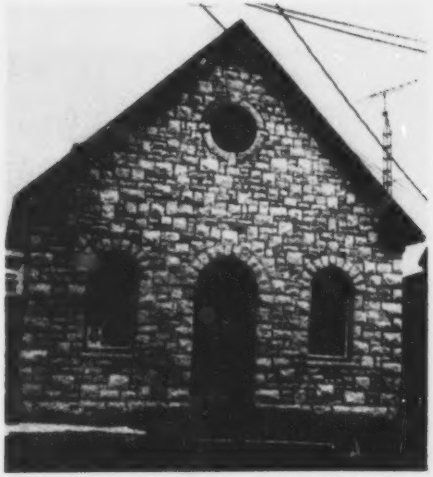
06-191 Perth, Ont.


PICKERING
TOWNSHIP HALL

06-194 Pickering Township Hall, Brougham, Ont.



06-200 Port Hope, Ont.



06-196 Pittsburgh Township Hall, Barriefield, Ont.

06-201 Port Perry, Ont.

06-203 Portsmouth Town Hall, Kingston, Ont.

ABERFOYLE
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

06-205 Puslinch Township Hall, Aberfoyle, Ont.

06-204 Powassan, Ont.

06-210 Richmond, Ont.

Built in 1867[1]; James Barclay, architect[2]; Allan McIntyre, builder[2]; frame
Original use: town hall and agricultural hall; present use: community hall; addition ca. 1950, renovated in 1967

1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Puslinch 1866-68.
2 Ibid., meeting of 29 July 1867.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-206 Former Rainy River Town Hall, now Rainy River Municipal Library
220 Fourth Street
Built between 1909 and 1910[1]; Pratt and Ross, architects[1]; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: library; renovated ca. 1970

1 Contract Record, Vol. 23, (22 September 1909), p. 23.

06-207 Former Raleigh Township Hall
Merlin
Built in 1908[1]; T.J. Rutley and Arnold, architect[2]; Moore and Stephens, contractor[2]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

1 Township of Raleigh, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1907- 1909.
2 Ibid., meeting of 30 March 1908.

06-208 Rawdon Township Hall
Harold
Built in 1863[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Use: town hall

1 Township of Rawdon, Records of the Clerk.

06-209 Rear of Yonge and Escott Township
Hall Central Street, Athens
Built in 1856[1]; William Holmes, architect[1]; Henry Bradfield Jr., builder[1]; stone
Use: town hall

1 Financial Statement for the Township of Rear of Yonge and Escott for 1856-57, reprinted in Brockville Recorder, 5 March 1857 and 18 March 1858.

06-210 Former Richmond Town Hall
77 Perth Street, Richmond
Built ca. 1850[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present hall: community hall

1 Richmond "150": Yesterday and Today 1818-1968 (n.p.: n.p., 1968), p. 92.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-211 Rochester Union Hall
1005 Main Street, South Woodslee
Built in 1895[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Rochester 1894-95.

06-212 Rodney Town Hall
217 Furnival Street
Built in 1872[1]; Duncan McIntyre Sr., architect[2]; Daniel McLavin, builder[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and post office; front addition in 1920

1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Aldborough 1872-73.
2 Ibid., meeting of 16 July 1872.
3 Ibid., meeting of 14 June 1872.

06-213 Former Roxborough Township Hall
Warina
Built in 1869[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

1 Township of Roxborough, Records of the Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-214 Former St. Catharines Town Hall, now Lincoln County Court House
95 King Street, St. Catharines
Built between 1848 and 1849[1]; Kivas Tully, architect[2]; William Barron, contractor[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: court house; additions in 1850 and between 1863 and 1864

1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of St. Catharines 1848-50.
2 Ibid., meeting of 6 July 1848.
3 Ibid., meeting of 25 August 1848.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-215 Former Merritton Town Hall, now St. Catharines Historical Museum
343 Merritt Street, St. Catharines
Built between 1879 and 1880[1]; W.B. Allen, architect[2]; James McDonald and John Walker, builders[3]; stone

Original use: town hall; present use: museum and fire hall; addition ca. 1960, renovated in 1972

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Merritton 1879-80.
2 Ibid., meeting of 1 December 1879.
3 Ibid., meeting of 18 September 1879.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-216 St. Mary's Town Hall
175 Queen Street E.
Built between 1891 and 1892[1]; George W. Gouinlock, architect[1]; John Elliott, mason; Jacob Near, carpenter; John Willard, painter; Fred Patterson, plasterer; J.C. Gilpin, ironwork; stone
Original use: town hall, jail and market; present use: town hall

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1 Keith Bantock, "St. Mary's Town Halls," a report for the LACAC, St. Mary's.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-217 St. Thomas City Hall
541 Talbot Street
Built between 1898 and 1899[1]; Neil Darrach, architect[2]; Pansford Brothers, masons; Doggett and Company, stonework; J.M. Green, carpenter; John Riddle, slater[3]; sandstone
Use: city hall; renovated in 1968

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the City of St. Thomas 1897-1900.
2 Ibid., meeting of 3 May 1898.
3 Ibid., meeting of 10 June 1898.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-218 Former Scott Township Hall, now Country Heritage Museum
Uxbridge
Built in 1860[1]; Council, designer[1]; John Thompson, builder[1]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: museum; moved and restored in 1975

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1 Country Heritage Museum, "Notes on the Scott Township Hall."

06-219 Scugog Township Hall
Port Perry
Built in 1884[1]; architect unknown; William Trenum, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition ca. 1967

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1 F.G. Weir, Scugog and its Environs (Port Perry: n.p., 1927), p. 37.

06-220 Seaforth Town Hall
72 Main Street S.
Built between 1893 and 1894[1]; J.R. Lyon, architect[2]; Young and Causey, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and police station; addition in 1955, renovations in 1957

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1 Isobel Campbell, The Story of Seaforth (Seaforth: Huron Expositor, 1966), p. 118.
2 Huron Expositor (Seaforth), 4 May 1894, p. 8.
3 Ibid., 24 February 1893, p. 8.
Photo: CIHB.

06-221 Sheffield Township Hall
Ottawa Street, Tamworth
Built in 1895[1]; architect unknown; Samuel Shields, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall and library

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1 Township of Sheffield, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1895.

06-222 Shelburne Town Hall
203 Main Street E.
Built in 1882[1]; Mr. Newton, architect[1]; John Donaldson, builder[2]; brick
Original use: town hall, jail and fire hall; present use: town hall and police station

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1 John Rose, The History of Shelburne (Shelburne: n.p., 1974?), pp. 462-76.
2 Town of Shelburne, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council, meeting of 16 August 1882.

06-223 Former Sherbrooke Municipal Building
Stromness
Built in 1861[1]; Henry Burgoyne, architect[2]; Richard Pew, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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1 Town of Dunnville, Clerk's Office, former Townships of Moulton and Sherbrooke, Minutes of Council 1861-62.
2 Ibid., meeting of 20 January 1862.
3 Ibid., meetings of 26 December 1861 and 20 January 1862.

06-224 Smiths Falls Town Hall
77 Beckwith Street N.
Built between 1859 and 1860[1]; Ezekiel Shipman, architect[2]; Dodds and Ballantyne, contractor[2]; stone
Original use: town hall and jail; present use: town hall, fire hall and police station; fire hall added in 1876

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1 Smiths Falls Historical Society, History of Smith

Falls (Smiths Falls: n.p., 1977), p. 11.
2 Letter from Francis Wyght, LACAC for Smith Falls to CIHB., 18 August 1978.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-225 Sophiasburgh Town Hall
Demorestville
Built in 1876[1]; architect unknown; James Spurr, builder[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: town hall and fire hall; addition ca. 1970

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1 Picton Times, centennial edition, 1954.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-226 Former South Crosby Township Hall, now Seaman's Furniture Store
Main Street, Elgin
Built before 1863[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: store; extensive alterations

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1 Township of South Crosby, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1863.

06-227 Former South Grimsby Township Hall
Convenience and Brock Street, Smithville
Built ca. 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; converted ca. 1967

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1 Township of West Lincoln, Records of the Clerk.

06-228 Milford Town Hall
Built in 1864[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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1 Township of South Marysburgh, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1864.

06-229 Former South Sandwich Council Chambers, now Oldcastle Women's Institute Hall
Oldcastle
Built in 1927[1]; architect unknown; Morand and Russette, contractor[1]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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1 Unpublished notes for a history of the Township of South Sandwich by Mrs. Dorothy Crowder, Oldcastle, Ontario.

06-230 South Sherbrooke Township Hall
Maberly
Built in 1884[1]; architect unknown; George Charleton, builder[1]; frame
Use: town hall; addition 1961-62 and ca. 1970

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1 Township of South Sherbrooke, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1884-85.

06-231 Southampton Town Hall
201 High Street
Built in 1910[1]; architect unknown; Chippawa Lumber Co., builder[2]; brick
Use: town hall and police station; renovated in 1978

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1 Southampton Centennial: stories of the past, 1858-1958 (Southampton: n.p., 1958), p. 21.
2 Contract Record, Vol. 24 (25 May 1910), p. 28.

06-232 Former Fingal Town Hall
224 Main Street, Fingal
Built between 1850 and 1852[1]; George Munro, architect[2]; Chauncey Lewis, builder[2]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: storage; moved and converted ca. 1966

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Southwold 1850-52.
2 Ibid., meeting of 12 January 1852.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-233 Former Stamford Township Hall
5810 Ferry Street, Niagara Falls
Built in 1874[1]; John Latshaw, architect[2]; Dutton and Brown, contractor[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: museum; altered

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Stamford 1874-75.
2 Ibid., meeting of 19 January 1874.
3 Ibid., meeting of 21 February 1874.

06-234 Stanley Township Hall
Varna
Built in 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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1 J.F. McAsh, Varna in Review (Clinton: Huron Expositor, 1968), p. 27.

06-235 Stayner Town Hall
217 Gideon Street
Built in 1908[1]; Archibald Turner, architect[2]; James Vickery and John Kinsley, builders[3]; brick

Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall; altered

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[1] Town of Stayner, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1908-09.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 2 October 1908.
[3] Ibid., meetings of 26 and 27 October 1908.

06-236 Stephen Community Centre
Main Street, Crediton
Built in 1886[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; addition in 1952

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[1] University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Township of Stephen 1885-87.

06-237 Sterling Community Service Building
98 Front Street
Built in 1927[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall, police station and theatre

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[1] Village of Sterling, Records of the Clerk.

06-238 Stratford City Hall
1 Town Square
Built between 1898 and 1899[1]; George W. King and J.W. Siddall, architects[2]; Young and Cawsey, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated extensively in 1974

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the City of Stratford 1898-99.
[2] Ibid., meetings of 20 June and 3 November 1898.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 5 August 1898.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-239 Strathroy Town Hall
52 Frank Street
Built in 1928[1]; Watt and Blackwell, architect[2]; McEachern Contracting Co., contractor[2]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall, library and court room; renovated ca. 1965

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[1] "A New Town Hall," Construction, Vol. 20 (December 1927), p. 390.
[2] Strathroy Town Records, "Statement of the New Town Hall," 1929.

06-240 Sullivan Community Hall
Desboro
Built in 1875[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; John Grant and Mr. Fraser, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall; addition for community hall in 1950

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Sullivan 1874-76.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 8 March 1875.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 12 April 1875.

06-241 Teeswater Town Hall
Clinton Street
Built in 1869[1]; Samuel Kirkland, architect[2]; Samuel and A. Kirkland, builders[3]; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall; renovated in 1915, addition in 1963

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Culross 1868-70.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 17 March 1869.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 31 March 1869.

06-242 Thamesville Town Hall
Victoria Street and Elizabeth Street
Built in 1911[1]; Watt and Blackwell, architects[2]; Charles Hubbell, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and library; town clock replaced in 1967

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[1] Village of Thamesville, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1911-12.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 8 May 1911.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 24 July 1911.

06-243 Thorold Township Hall
Falls Street and Centre Street
Built in 1843[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame, stuccoed
Use: town hall; additions in 1932, 1940, 1950 and ca. 1972

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Thorold Township Meetings

06-244 Thurlow Township Hall
Front Street, Cannifton
Built in 1873[1]; architect unknown; J.A. Montieff, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall; addition and renovations in 1967

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[1] Datestone.

06-245 Former Tilbury West Township Hall, now Comber Medical Clinic
Main Street, Comber
Built between 1888 and 1889[1]; Myers and Son, architect[2]; George J. Fielder, mason; Ludlem and Ainslie, carpenters[3]; brick

Original use: town hall; present use: medical clinic; renovated in 1971

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Tilbury West 1887-90.
2 Ibid., meeting of 23 April 1888.
3 Ibid., meeting of 12 June 1888.

06-246 Former Toronto City Hall, now St. Lawrence Market

93 Front Street E., Toronto
Built in 1844[1]; Henry Bower Lane, architect[1]; McDonald and Young, contractor[1]; brick and stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: market; extensively renovated

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1 City of Toronto Archives. City Hall file.

06-247 York County Court House

60 Queen Street W., Toronto
Built between 1889 and 1900[1]; E.J. Lennox, architect[1]; day labour under the direction of E.J. Lennox, builders[1]; Credit Valley sandstone
Original use: town hall and court house; present use: court house; restored ca. 1967

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1 City of Toronto Archives. City Hall file.
Photo: City of Toronto Archives.

06-248 Tottenham Municipal Building

18 Queen Street N.
Built in 1893[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall and library

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1 Village of Tottenham, Records of the Clerk.

06-249 Former Trenton Town Hall, now Trenton Police Station

55 King Street
Built between 1860 and 1861[1]; Kivas Tully, architect[2]; Michael Gormley and Harrison Betts, builders[3]; stone
Original use: town hall and market; present use: police station; addition ca. 1965, renovated

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1 Town of Trenton, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1860-61.
2 Ontario. Archives. Andrew Shurie Papers, Minutes of Council of the Village of Trenton, meeting of 9 August 1860.
3 Town of Trenton, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council, meetings of 5 September 1860 and 5 August 1861.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-250 Tyendinaga Community Hall

Melrose
Built in 1859[1]; John Forin, architect[2]; John Gault and James Robinson, builders[3]; stone
Use: town hall; addition and renovation in 1955

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1 Township of Tyendinaga, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1858-60.
2 Ibid., meeting of 28 August 1858.
3 Ibid., meeting of 1 February 1859.

06-251 Usborne Township Hall

R.R. No. 3, Exeter
Built in 1869[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; addition ca. 1960

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1 University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Township of Usborne 1869.

06-252 Wainfleet Community Centre

Built in 1880[1]; D.W. McCain, architect[2]; John Carter, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall; addition in 1967

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1 Township of Wainfleet, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1879-81.
2 Ibid., meeting of 20 January 1880.
3 Ibid., meeting of 16 February 1880.

06-253 Victoria Jubilee Hall

111 Jackson Street, Walkerton
Built in 1897[1]; A.R. Denison, architect[2]; H. Clark, contractor[3]; brick
Use: town hall, fire hall and police station; renovated ca. 1955

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1 Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Town of Walkerton 1897-98.
2 Ibid., meeting of 7 April 1897.
3 Ibid., meeting of 1 June 1897.

06-254 Warwick Township Hall

Egremont Road
Built in 1854[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; John McElory, builder[3]; frame, brick veneered
Use: town hall; extensively renovated and addition built in 1939

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1 University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Township of Warwick, 1854-55.
2 Ibid., meeting of 21 August 1854.

06-255 Former Waterford Town Hall
76 Main Street, Waterford
Built in 1902[1]; Alexander Rock, architect[2]; Robert S. Paskins, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: fire hall and offices; addition ca. 1967

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Village of Waterford 1901-1902.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 3 June 1901.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 15 January 1902.

06-256 Watford Town Hall
521 Ontario Street
Built in 1874[1]; Council, designer[2]; Howden and Hunse, builders[3]; frame
Original use: town hall and jail; present use: blacksmith shop

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[1] University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council of the Village of Watford 1874-75.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 7 July 1874.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 16 July 1874.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-257 Wellesley Township Hall
Crosshill
Built between 1854 and 1855[1]; Council, designer[2]; Mr. Tyson, builder[3]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated in 1888, addition between 1973 and 1974

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[1] Research notes on Wellesley Township Hall by Mrs. Robert Rowell of Waterloo; source for following two references as well.
[2] Berlin Telegraph, 24 June 1853, reprinting the Minutes of Council of the Township of Wellesley 14 May 1853.
[3] Der Deutsche Canadier (Berlin, now Kitchener), 13 December 1855, reprinting the Minutes of Council of ca. 13 November 1855.

06-258 Former Wellington Town Hall
262 Main Street, Wellington
Built in 1862[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame, metal clad
Original use: town hall and Orange Hall; present use: storage; renovated ca. 1920

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[1] Village of Wellington, Clerk's Office, deed for town hall.

06-259 West Flamborough Township Hall
46 Brock Road,. Greenville
Built in 1875[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[2]; George Soper, builder[3]; stone
Use: town hall; renovated in 1925, 1938 and 1941

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[1] West Flamborough Township Centennial 1850-1950 (Hamilton: n.p., 1950), pp. 160-1.
[2] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of West Flamborough, meeting of 6 May
[3] Ibid., meeting of 16 June 1875.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-260 West Lorne Community Hall
223 Graham Street
Built in 1929[1]; J.T. Findlay, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 43 (21 August 1929), p. 96.

06-261 Westport Town Hall
241 Bedford Street
Built in 1853[1]; architect unknown; Alba Taggart and Noah Halliday, builders[1]; stone
Original use: town hall and school; present use: town hall; addition in 1978, altered

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[1] Letter of Ronald Kane, Clerk of the Village of Westport to CIHB, 5 September 1978.

06-262 West Wawanosh Township Hall
St. Helen's
Built ca. 1870[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; frame
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of West Wawanosh, Records of the Clerk.

06-263 Former Willoughby Township Hall
11211 Sodom Road, Niagara Falls
Built in 1877[1]; Building Committee of Council, designer[1]; David Morningstar, builder[1]; frame
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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[1] Letter of Miss M.L. Adams, Executive Assistant to the City Manager, City of Niagara Falls to CIHB, 27 April 1979.

06-264 Former Winchester Town Hall, now Winchester Police Station
78 Main Street
Built between 1901 and 1902[1]; architect unknown; day labour, under direction of H.W. Empey, builders[1]; brick
Original use: town hall, fire hall and police station; present use: police station and fire hall; addition ca. 1958

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[1] Village of Winchester, Clerk's Office, Bylaws and Treasurer's Journals 1901-04.

06-265 Windham Township Hall

Windham Centre
Built in 1871[1]; Jeremiah Watson and George Wallace, architects[2]; John Raick, builder[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall; rebuilt in 1905, addition in 1960

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[1] Ontario. Archives. Minutes of Council of the Township of Windham 1871.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 18 February 1871.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 22 December 1871.

06-266 Wingham Town Hall

274 Josephine Street
Built in 1890[1]; John C. Forster, architect[2]; Robert Patterson, contractor[2]; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: town hall, library, police station and court room

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[1] Canadian Architect and Builder, Vol. 2 (August 1889), p. 95.
[2] Town of Wingham, Clerk's Office, Treasurer's Journals 1889-91.

06-267 Wolfe Island Township Hall

Main Street
Built in 1859[1]; Edward Horsey, architect[2]; builder unknown; stone
Use: town hall; renovated in 1966

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[1] Township of Wolfe Island, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1857-60.
[2] Ibid., meeting of 7 June 1859.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-268 Former Wolford Township Hall

Easton's Corners
Built in 1862[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stone
Original use: town hall; present use: house; renovated in 1974

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[1] Township of Wolford, Records of the Clerk.

06-269 Former Woodstock City Hall, now Oxford County Museum

City Square, Woodstock
Built between 1851 and 1852[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall and market; present use: museum; restored ca. 1974

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[1] V.B. Blake, "Woodstock City Hall," Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Agenda Paper 1962-67, p. 1.

06-270 Woodville Town Hall

King Street
Built ca. 1875[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of Eldon, Records of the Clerk; Village of Woodville, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1884.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-271 Wroxeter Community Hall

Main Street
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; John Adams, contractor[2]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: community hall

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[1] Contract Record, Vol. 15 (26 April 1905), p. 5.
[2] Letter to CIHB from W.R. Ball, Clerk of the Township of Howick, 8 March 1979.

06-272 Former Yarmouth Township Hall

1229 Talbot Street, St. Thomas
Built between 1904 and 1905[1]; Neil Darrach, architect[2]; L.D. Cloes, contractor[3]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

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[1] University of Western Ontario, Regional Collection, Minutes of Council and Treasurer's Accounts of the Township of Yarmouth 1904-06.
[2] Ibid., minutes of the meeting of 6 March 1905.
[3] Ibid., meeting of 7 March 1904.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

06-273 Zone Township Hall

Zone Centre
Built in 1878[1]; architect unknown; Fred Jennings, builder[1]; brick
Use: town hall

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[1] Township of Zone, Clerk's Office, Minutes of Council 1878.
Photo: CIHB, D. Johnson.

MANITOBA (07)

07-001 Argyle Municipal Office

1st Street, Baldur
Built in 1927[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown;

brick[1];
Use: government offices[2]

1 Interview with Clerk of Rural Municipality of Argyle.
2 Baldur High School Centennial Committee, Historical Sketches of Argyle Municipality (n.p.: n.p., n.d), n.p.

07-002 Birtle Town Hall
7th Avenue and Main Street
Built in 1909; A.F. Nesbitt, architect; J.G. Bernie, contractor[1]; brick[2]
Use: town hall; redecorated in 1970[3]

1 Eye-witness (Birtle), 8 June 1909, p. 1.
2 Marion Abra, ed. A View of the Birdtail (Altona: Friesen Printers, 1974), p. 51.
3 Interview with Town Clerk, Birtle.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-003 Former Boissevain Town Hall, now Canadian Association for the Mentally Retarded Workshop[1]
549 Cook Street, Boissevain
Built in 1910; architect unknown; W. Armstrong, contractor[2]; brick[3]
Original use: town hall; present use: remedial workshop

1 Province of Manitoba, Historic Resources Branch, Boissevain file.
2 Globe (Boissevain), 18 April 1910, p. 1.
3 Boissevain Recorder, 5 January 1911, p. 1.

07-004 Carberry Town Hall
122 Main Street
Built in 1907; W.A. Elliott, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick and stone[2,3]
Use: town hall

1 Express (Carberry), 4 July 1907, p. 5.
2 News (Carberry), 19 July 1907, p. 5.
3 Willard Stonehouse, The Carberry Plains (Carberry: n.p., 1959), p. 27.

07-005 Memorial Hall
12 2nd Avenue S.W., Carman
Built between 1919 and 1920[1]; William Fingland(?), architect[2]; J.F. Brynjolfsen, contractor[2]; brick
Use: town hall

1 Thomas Kernighan, Dufferin and Carman, Manitoba (Vancouver: North Shore Press, 1923), p. 69.
2 Dufferin Leader (Carman), 10 July 1919, p. 4; ibid., 27 May 1920, p. 1.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-006 Department of Agriculture
302 Main Street South, Dauphin
Built between 1906 and 1907[1]; architect unknown; Isaac Hafenbrak, contractor[1]; brick
Use: governmental offices

1 Dauphin Press, 17 October 1907, p. 1.

07-007 Former Dauphin Town Hall, now Allied Arts Centre
104 1st Avenue N.W., Dauphin
Built in 1905[1]; Stuart Geekie, architect[2]; King Brothers, builder[2]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: educational centre; rebuilt after fire in 1917[3]

1 Interview with Town Clerk of Dauphin.
2 Dauphin Press, 10 May 1905, p. 1.
3 Dauphin Valley Spans the Years (Dauphin: Dauphin Historical Society, 1970), p. 33.
Photo: CIHB.

07-008 Deloraine Fire Hall
102 Broadway Street South
Built in 1905[1,2]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall and fire hall

1 Interview with Deloraine Town Clerk.
2 Westhall Illustrated Review (Deloraine), 1 January 1908, p. 28.
Photo: CIHB.

07-009 Court House and Town Hall
Church Street and Winnipeg Avenue, Emerson
Built between 1917 and 1918; John D. Atchison, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: court house and town hall[2]

1 Emerson Journal, 26 October 1917, p. 4.
2 Emerson, 1875-1975, A Centennial History (Emerson: Chamber of Commerce, 1975), n.p.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-010 Mossey River Municipal Offices
Second Street, Fork River
Built in 1928[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; log[1]
Use: governmental offices

1 Interview with Mossey River Municipal Clerk.

07-011 Hartney Fire Hall
218 West Railway Street
Built in 1906[1]; Eade Brothers, architect[1]; A. Vaughan, contractor[1]; brick[2]

Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall

1 Hartney Star, 23 February 1906, p. 1; ibid., 9 March 1906, p. 4.
2 Hazel McDonald Parkinson, The Mere Living (Altona: D.W. Friesen, 1957), n.p.

07-012 Taché Municipal Offices
450 Dawson Road, Lorette
Built in 1907[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: governmental offices

1 Interview with Municipal Clerk of Taché.

07-013 Archie Municipal Offices
Qu'Appelle Street and McAuley Avenue, McAuley
Built in 1918[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: governmental offices

1 Interview with Archie Municipal Clerk.

07-014 Former Miniota Town Hall, now Miniota Museum
83 Miniota Road
Built between 1910 and 1911[1]; architect unknown; Alfred Millbank, contractor[2]; brick
Original use: governmental offices; present use: museum

1 Interview with Miniota Municipal Clerk.
2 Miniota Herald, 21 July 1910, p. 1.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-015 Town Hall
282 Hamilton Avenue, Neepawa
Built in 1884[1]; C. Osborn Wickenden, architect[1]; Gossil and Dykeman, contractors[1]; brick and stone[1]
Original use: court house and municipal offices; present use: town hall

1 R.R. Rostecki, "Neepawa Court House Report." Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1976.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-016 Springfield Municipal Office
628 Main Street, Oakbank
Built between 1905 and 1906[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

1 Canadian Municipal Journal, Vol. 2, (May 1906), p. 186.

07-017 Pipestone Municipal Office
4th Street and 3rd Avenue, Reston
Built between 1917 and 1918[1]; W.A. Elliott, architect; A.H. Bushby, contractor[1]; brick
Use: municipal offices

1 Reston Recorder, 6 September 1917, p. 2; ibid., 22 November 1917, p. 1.

07-018 Ritchot Municipal Offices
344 Main Street, St. Adolphe
Built in 1914[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: municipal offices

1 Interview with Ritchot Municipal Clerk.

07-019 Ste. Anne Municipal Offices
141 Central Avenue
Built between 1909 and 1910[1]; architect unknown; Felix St-Laurent, contractor[1]; brick
Use: municipal offices; tower removed

1 Histoire de la paroisse Sainte-Anne des Chênes, 1876-1976 (Ste. Anne: Villa Youville, 1976), p. 123.
Photo: Historic Resources Branch, Dept. of Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Man.

07-020 St. Boniface City Hall
209 Provencher Boulevard
Built between 1905 and 1906[1]; Victor W. Horwood, architect[1]; William Grace Company, contractor[1]; brick
Use: city hall

1 Manitoba Free Press (Winnipeg), 30 October 1905, p. 36.

07-021 Lorne Municipal Offices
311 3rd Street, Somerset
Built in 1922[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: governmental offices

1 Interview with Lorne Municipal Clerk.

07-022 Rockwood Municipal Office
337 Main Street, Stonewall
Built between 1912 and 1913[1]; V.W. Horwood, architect[2]; Fraser and Gillies, builder[1]; stone
Use: governmental offices

1 Stonewall: Turning A Century, 1878-1978 (Stonewall: Interlake Press, 1978), p. 46.

2 Manitoba, Report of the Department of Public Works for 1913 (Winnipeg: King's Printer, 1914), p. 470.

Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-023 Strathclair Municipal Hall
Minnedosa Avenue
Built between 1904 and 1905[1,2]; S.F. and W.A. Peters, architects[1]; Fusee and McFeetors, contractor[1,2]; brick[3]
Use: governmental offices

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1 Minnedosa Tribune, 16 March 1905, p. 2.
2 Rural Municipality of Strathclair, Our Story to 1970 (Brandon: Leach Printing, 1970), n.p.
3 Western Municipal News, Vol. 1, (December 1906), p. 279.

07-024 Town Hall and Auditorium Theatre
228 Wellington Avenue West, Virden
Built in 1894[1]; architect unknown; J.A. Saul and G. Marshall, builders[2]; brick
Original use: fire hall and town hall; present use: town hall and theatre; town hall and theatre Built in 1911

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1 Ida Clingan, The Virden Story (Virden: Empire Publishing Company, 1957), p. 104.
2 Virden Advance, 3 January 1895, p. 1.

07-025 West St. Paul Offices
3550 Main Street
Built in 1917; C.S. Bridgman, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick and stone
Use: governmental offices[2]

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1 "Tenders," Manitoba Free Press (Winnipeg), 20 March 1917, p. 11.
2 Western Municipal News, Vol. 12 (June 1917), p. 183.

Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

07-026 Former Winnipeg Beach Town Hall, now Town Garage
Hamilton Street, Winnipeg Beach
Built in 1919[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: garage

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1 Interview with Town Clerk of Winnipeg Beach.

SASKATCHEWAN (08)

08-001 Abbey Public Library
Wayne Street
Built between 1916 and 1917[1]; architect unknown; A.J. Carson, contractor; wood
Original use: municipal offices; present use: library

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1 Memories of Yesteryear: R.M. of Mirey Creek (Abbey: n.p., 1963), p. 15.

08-002 Town Hall
41 Main Street, Arcola
Built between 1905 and 1906; W.A. Elliott, architect; J.H. Morrison, contractor[1]; brick
Use: town hall; cupola demolished 1955

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1 Arcola Town Council Minutes, 1904-06.

Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-003 Fire Hall
Main Street and Eagle Avenue, Asquith
Built in 1909[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall

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1 Asquith School, Golden Jubilee, Asquith, 1955, (n.p.: n.p., n.d).

Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-004 Town Hall
110 3rd Avenue West, Assiniboia
Built between 1923 and 1924; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall; fire hall Built in 1960[1]

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1 Assiniboia Times, 27 June 1962, p. 3.

08-005 Town Hall
91 24th Street S.W., Battleford
Built between 1911 and 1912[1]; W.W. LaChance, architect; H.A. Piggott, contractor[2]; brick
Use: town hall; renovated in 1965[3]

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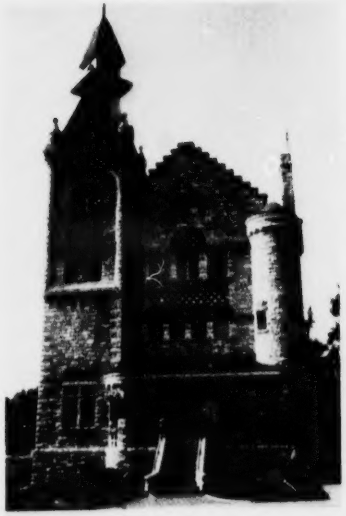
1 C. Wetton, Historical Battleford (Battleford: Board of Trade, 1955).
2 "Battleford Town Council Minutes," Saskatchewan Herald (Battleford), 26 August 1911, n.p.; A.E. McPherson, "A History of the Battlefords to 1914," (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Saskatchewan, 1966), p. 184.
3 Interview with Mrs. Eileen Barry, Battleford City Clerk.

06-213 Roxborough Township Hall, Warina, Ont.

06-215 Merritton Town Hall, St. Catharines, Ont.

06-214 St. Catharines, Ont.



06-216 St. Mary's, Ont.

06-217 St. Thomas, Ont.

06-224 Smiths Falls, Ont.

06-220
Seaforth, Ont.

06-225 Sophiasburgh Town Hall, Demorestville, Ont.

06-233 Stamford Township Hall, Niagara Falls, Ont.

06-247
York County
Court House,
Toronto, Ont.

06-238 Stratford, Ont.

06-249 Trenton, Ont.

06-256 Watford, Ont.

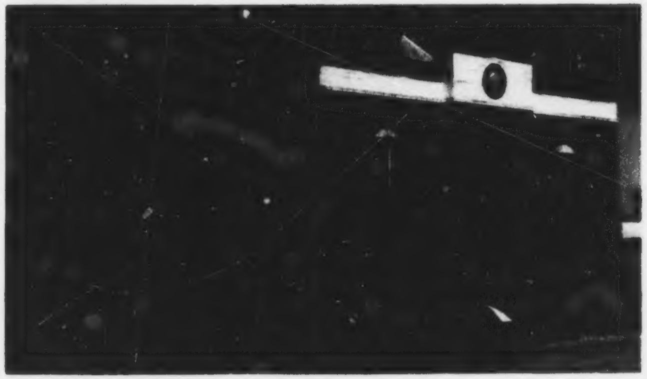
06-262 West Wawanosh Township Hall, St. Helen's, Ont.

06-259 West Flamborough Township Hall, Greenville, Ont.

06-267 Wolfe Island, Ont.

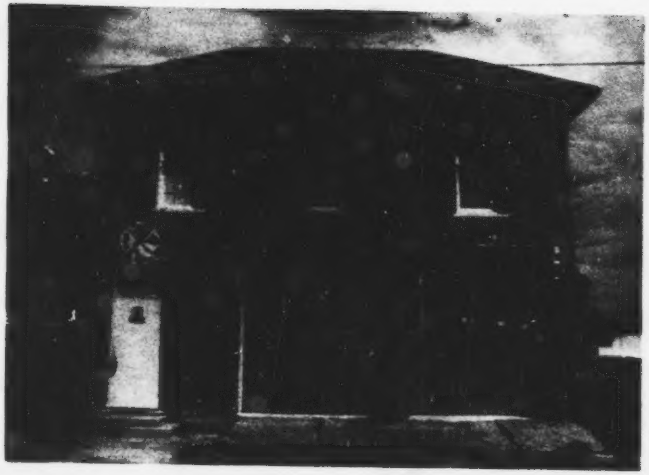
06-270
Woodville, Ont.

07-005 Carman, Man.

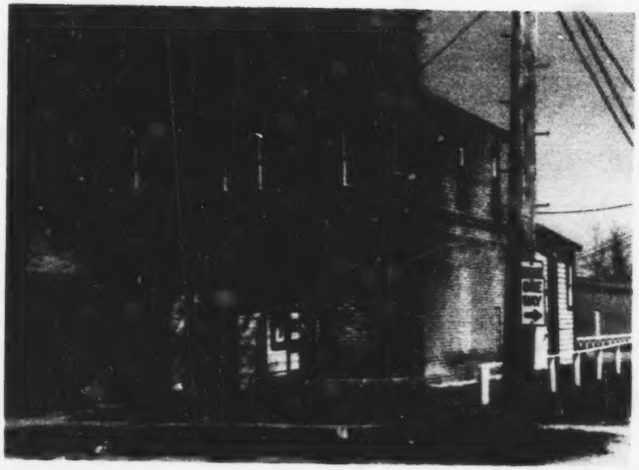


07-002 Birtle, Man.

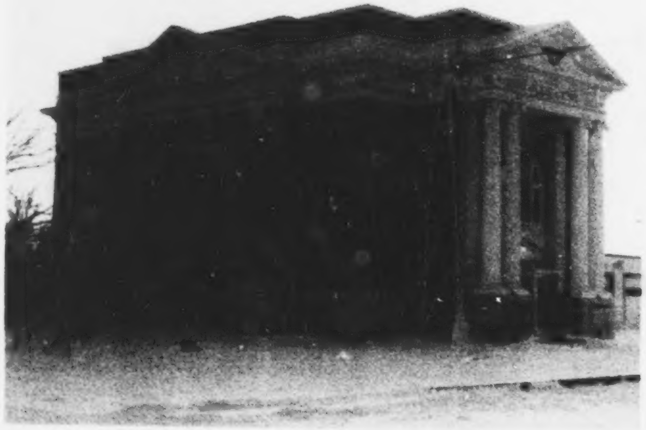
07-007 Dauphin, Man.



07-008 Deloraine, Man.



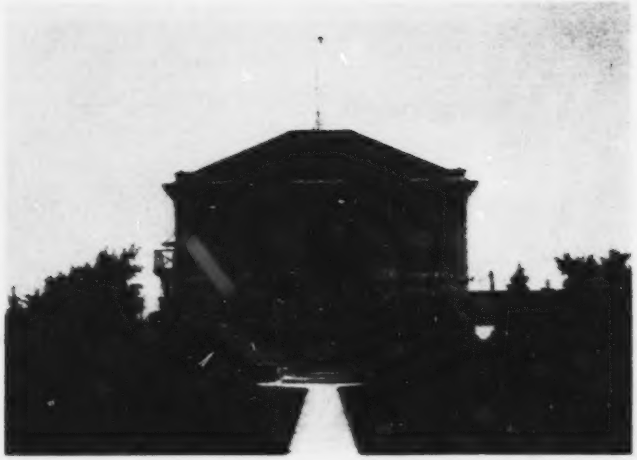
07-014 Miniota Town Hall, Miniota, Man.



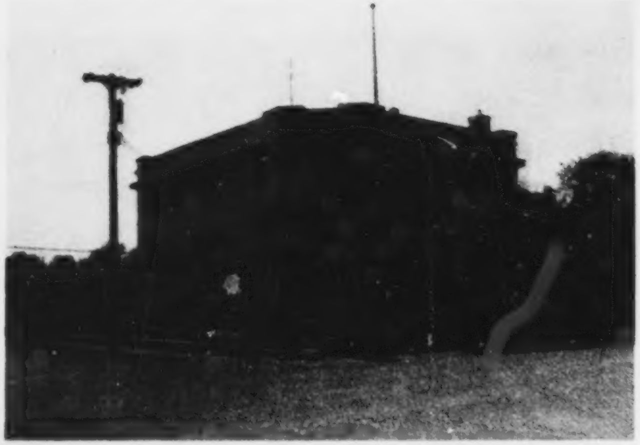
07-009 Emerson, Man.

07-015
Neepawa, Man.

07-019 Ste. Anne, Man.



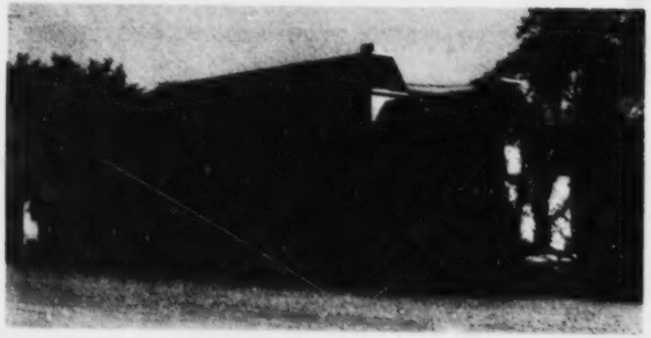
07-025 West St. Paul, Man.



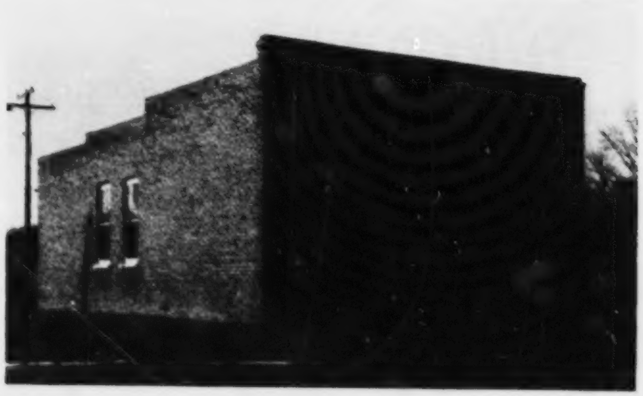
07-022 Rockwood Municipal Office, Stonewall, Man.

08-002 Arcola, Sask.

08-003 Asquith, Sask.



08-007 Biggar, Sask.



08-008 Caron, Sask.

08-011 Duck Lake, Sask.

08-006 Bengough Municipal Office
William Street
Built in 1926[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Use: governmental offices

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1 Interview with Bengough Municipal Clerk.

08-007 Town Hall
201 2nd Avenue West, Biggar
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; stucco
Use: town hall

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1 Interview with Biggar Town Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-008 Municipal Office
Caron Road, Caron
Built ca. 1915; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: governmental offices

No known sources.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-009 Municipal Offices
1st Avenue West, Ceylon
Built between 1912 and 1913[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

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1 Interview with Municipal Clerk for the Rural Municipality of The Gap.

08-010 Town Hall
3rd Street and 1st Avenue, Craik
Built in 1913[1]; Storey and Van Egmond, architect[2]; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall

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1 Craik Weekly News, 22 December 1955, p. 3.
2 Saskatchewan Archives, Regina, Storey and Van Egmond Collection, listing.

08-011 Former Duck Lake Town Hall, now Senior Citizens' Centre
2nd Street and Victoria Avenue, Duck Lake
Built in 1928[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: recreational centre

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1 Interview with Duck Lake Town Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-012 Municipal Office
204 Main Street, Eston
Built in 1925[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: municipal offices[2]

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1 Interview with Rural Municipality of Snipe Lake Municipal Clerk.
2 Western Municipal News, Vol. 33, (November 1938), pp. 312-4.

08-013 Municipal Office
Centre Street, Fillmore
Built between 1925 and 1926[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick[2]
Use: municipal offices

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1 Municipal Review of Canada, Vol. 21, (November 1925), p. 394.
2 Interview with the Rural Municipality of Fillmore Municipal Clerk.

08-014 Former Foam Lake Town Hall, now Foam Lake Museum
Bray Avenue, Foam Lake
Built in 1926[1]; J. Young, architect and builder[2]; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: museum

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1 Interview with Foam Lake Town Clerk.
2 Regina Leader, 8 May 1926, p. 10.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-015 Town Hall
2378 Proton Avenue, Gull Lake
Built between 1923 and 1924[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: town hall[2]

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1 Municipal Review of Canada, Vol. 19, (October 1923), p. 435.
2 Interview with Gull Lake Town Clerk.

08-016 Hanley Opera House
Lincoln Street and 1st Avenue
Built in 1912[1]; architect unknown; Duncan A. Black, contractor[2]; brick veneer
Original use: town hall and theatre; present use: vacant

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1 Interview with Hanley Town Clerk.
2 Hanley Herald, 22 May 1955, p. 15.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-017 Municipal Office
169 Main Street, Hazlet

Built in 1929[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Use: governmental offices

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[1] Interview with the Rural Municipality of Pittville Municipal Clerk.

08-018 Municipal Office
613 Main Street, Kipling
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood (?)
Use: governmental offices

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[1] Interview with the Rural Municipality of Kingsley Municipal Clerk.
Photo: Saskatchewan Culture and Youth: Heritage Conservation Division.

08-019 Former Lemberg Town Hall
Chickney and Franz Street, Lemberg
Built between 1910 and 1915[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood (?)
Original use: town hall and community hall; present use: apartments; renovated in 1946

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[1] Interview with Lemberg Town

08-020 Town Hall
5011 49th Street, Lloydminster
Built in 1927[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick[2]
Use: city hall; addition in 1950

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[1] Interview with Lloydminster City Clerk.
[2] Western Municipal News, Vol. 25 (October 1930), pp. 300-02.

08-021 Town Office
Main Street, Macklin
Built in 1910[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: town hall

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[1] Interview with Macklin Town

08-022 Town Hall
430 Main Street, Melville
Built between 1912 and 1913; Storey and Van Egmond, architect[1]; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall and court house; present use: city hall

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[1] R.R. Rostecki, "Melville Court House Report." Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1976.
Photo: CIHB, M. Durand.

08-023 Town Hall
1001 Broadway, Moosomin
Built in 1905[1]; Frank R. Evans, architect[2]; A.C. McDougall, contractor[2]; brick and stone
Use: town hall; roof removed, unknown date

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[1] Moosomin World-Spectator, 22 July 1955, n.p.
[2] Minutes of Moosomin Town Council, 1904-06.

08-024 Municipal Office
Second Avenue, Mortlach
Built between 1914 and 1917[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

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[1] Interview with the Rural Municipality of Wheatland Municipal Clerk.
Photo: Saskatchewan Culture and Youth: Heritage Conservation Division.

08-025 Former Outlook Town Hall
211 Saskatchewan Avenue
Built ca. 1910; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood[1]
Original use: town hall; present use: store

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[1] Interview with Outlook Town Clerk.

08-026 Municipal Offices
Mergens Street, Pangman
Built in 1921[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

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[1] Interview with the Rural Municipality of Norton Municipal Clerk.

08-027 Municipal Offices
Oceanic Street, Perdue
Built in 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Use: governmental offices

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[1] Interview with the Rural Municipality of Perdue Municipal Clerk.

08-028 Former Prince Albert City Hall, now Parks and Recreation Building
1010 Central Avenue
Built between 1892 and 1895[1]; architect unknown; A. and W.B. Goodfellow, contractor[2]; brick veneer and stone[3]
Original use: town hall; present use: governmental offices; renovated in 1978

1 Saskatchewan Times (Prince Albert), 20 July 1892, p. 4.
2 Regina Leader, 26 January 1892, p. 8.
3 Prince Albert Times and Saskatchewan Review, 1 June 1892, p. 4.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-029 Former Qu'Appelle Town Hall, now Regional Library
Ninth Avenue and Walsh Street, Qu'Appelle
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: library

1 Interview with Qu'Appelle Town Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-030 Town Hall
Main Street, Radisson
Built in 1916[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; cement blocks
Use: town hall; heavily renovated

1 Interview with Radisson Town Clerk.

08-031 Municipal Office
103 Fairchild Avenue, Regina Beach
Built between 1922 and 1923[1]; Storey and Van Egmond, architect[1]; Smith Brothers, contractor[1]; wood and stucco
Use: governmental offices[2]

1 Saskatchewan Archives Board, Regina, Storey and Van Egmond Collection, listing.
2 Interview with Mr. G. Sinclair, Regina Beach, 29 May 1979.

08-032 Town Hall
First Avenue and Seventh Street, Rosthern
Built in 1907[1]; Noble and Anderson, architect[2]; Prince Contracting Company, builder[2]; brick
Use: town hall

1 Interview with Rosthern Town Clerk.
2 Rosthern Valley News, 14 December 1955, p. 1.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-033 Corman Park Municipal Office
414 20th Street East, Saskatoon
Built in 1929[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: municipal offices; interior renovations

1 Interview with Corman Park Municipal Secretary-Treasurer.

08-034 Scott Town Hall
Main Street
Built between 1910 and 1911[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Use: town hall

1 E. Frank Korvemaker.

08-035 Town Offices
Main Street and Durward Avenue, Sintaluta
Built between 1914 and 1920[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall and bank; present use: town hall and post office

1 Interview with June Ashfield, Sintaluta Town Clerk.

08-036 Municipal Office
4th Street and 3rd Avenue, Star City
Built in 1919[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

1 Star City Echo, August 1955, p. 12.

08-037 Town Hall
200 Mountain Street, Strasbourg
Built in 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Use: town hall

1 Interview with Strasbourg Town Clerk.

08-038 City Hall
198 1st Avenue N.E., Swift Current
Built in 1922[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; red brick
Use: city hall

1 Interview with Swift Current City Clerk.

08-039 Town Hall
South Railway Street, Wapella
Built between 1905 and 1906[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick[2]
Use: town hall

1 Interview with Wapella Town Clerk.
2 Wapella Post, 8 September 1955, n.p.

08-040 Former Watrous Town Hall, now Recreational Board Offices
3rd Avenue East, Watrous
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Original use: town hall; present use: governmental offices

1 Interview with Watrous Town Clerk.

08-041 Former Watson Town Hall, now Maintenance Building
Main Street, Watson
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: maintenance building

1 Interview with Watson Town Clerk.

08-042 City Hall
160 3rd Street, Weyburn
Built between 1913 and 1914[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; red brick[2]
Use: city hall

1 Winnipeg Saturday Post, 7 June 1913, p. 15.
2 Interview with Weyburn City Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-043 Former Town Hall
735 Lalonde Street, Whitewood
Built between 1900 and 1901[1,2]; A.M. Fraser, architect[2]; A.E. Playfair and J.N. Beatty, contractors[2]; stone[3]
Original use: town hall; present use: vacant

1 Interview with the Whitewood Town Clerk.
2 Minutes of Council of the Town of Whitewood 1899-1902.
3 Whitewood Herald, 19 May 1955, p. 2.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

08-044 Former Wilkie Town Hall, now Wilkie Historical Museum
215 1st Street East, Wilkie
Built in 1912[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: museum

1 W.A. Hook, Fifty Years of Progress (n.p.: n.p., 1955), p. 4.
Photo: CIHB.

08-045 Town Hall
Varnness and Richmond Street, Wolseley
Built in 1906[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick and stone
Use: town hall

1 Western Municipal News, Vol. 2, (November 1907), p. 578; Canadian Municipal Journal, Vol. 2, (June 1906), p. 231.

08-046 Morris Municipal Office
Main Street, Young,
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: governmental offices

1 E. Frank Korvemaker.

08-047 Town Offices
Main Street, Zealandia
Built in 1909[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall and fire hall; present use: fire hall

1 Interview with Zealandia Town Clerk.
Photo: CIHB, R.R. Rostecki.

ALBERTA (09)

09-001 Former Bassano Town Hall
Main Street, Bassano
Built in 1912[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: town hall; present use: auto repair shop

1 Alberta Archives, Department of Municipal Affairs Records, Accession No. 74.174, Box 61, item 970.

09-002 City Hall
716 Macleod Trail S.E., Calgary
Built between 1907 and 1911[1]; William M. Dodd, architect; Alberta Building Company, contractor; sandstone
Use: city hall; addition in 1962; renovated in 1959, 1963 and 1972

1 Daily Herald (Calgary), 18 December 1909, pp. 1 and 11; Albertan (Calgary), 13 April 1911.
Photo: Metropolitan Toronto Library Board.

09-003 Former Castor Town Hall
5006 50th Street, Castor
Built between 1911 and 1913[1]; architect unknown; Ted Lambert, builder; wood

Original use: town hall; present use: store

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[1] J.J. Campbell, Chatter Chips from Beaver Dam Creek (Lacombe: Parkland Color Press, 1974), p. 348.

09-004 County Offices
Main Street, Champion
Built in 1923[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: municipal offices

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[1] Cleverville Pioneer Club History Book Committee, Cleverville-Champion, 1905-1970 (Champion: History Committee, 1970), p. 75.

09-005 Coleman Fire Hall
2nd Street
Built between 1904 and 1905[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Original use: fire hall and town hall; present use: fire hall

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[1] Alberta Archives, Department of Municipal Affairs Records, Accession 74.174, Box 77, item 1048.
Photo: CIHB.

09-006 City Hall
234 Centre Street, Drumheller,
Built in 1922[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: city hall

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[1] Alberta Archives, Department of Municipal Affairs Records, Accession 74.174, By-law 151, Drumheller.

09-007 Former Edmonton City Hall, now Police Headquarters
99th Street and 102nd Avenue, Edmonton
Built between 1912 and 1913[1]; City of Edmonton, Architect's Office, architect[1]; builder unknown; trevi tile[2]
Original use: city hall; present use: police station; façade replaced in 1958

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[1] Edmonton Bulletin, 17 January 1913, p. 5.
[2] Edmonton Journal, 3 July 1976, n.p.

09-008 Former Fort Saskatchewan Town Hall, now Weston's Flowers
10214 100th Avenue, Fort Saskatchewan
Built between 1906 and 1907[1]; architect unknown; N. Milette, contractor[1]; brick and stucco
Original use: town hall; present use: stores; stucco added in the 1950s

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[1] Peter T. Ream, The Fort on the Saskatchewan -- A Resource Book (Edmonton: Metropolitan Printing, 1974), p. 332.

09-009 City Hall
580 2nd Street S.E., Medicine Hat
Built in 1906[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick and terra cotta
Use: city hall; altered

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[1] Western Municipal News, Vol. 2, (March 1907), p. 342.
Photo: CIHB.

09-010 Town Hall
5119 50th Street, Mirror
Built in 1913[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: town hall

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[1] Lamerton Historical Society, Land of the Lakes (n.p.: n.p., 1974), p. 443.

09-011 Former Morinville Town Hall, now Centennial Library
10101 100th Avenue, Morinville
Built in 1914[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood and stucco
Original use: town hall; present use: library

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[1] Interview with Morinville Town Clerk.

09-012 Town Offices
5003 50th Avenue, Stavely
Built before 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Use: town hall

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[1] Interview with Stavely Town Clerk.

09-013 Wainwright Fire Hall
1014 2nd Avenue
Built in 1930[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: town hall; present use: fire hall

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[1] Gilt Edge Ladies' Booster Club, Buffalo Trails and Tales (Wainwright: n.p., ca. 1973), p. 36.

BRITISH COLUMBIA (10)

10-001 Agassiz Arts and Crafts Building
Agassiz Fairgrounds
Built in 1926[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; wood
Original use: municipal hall; present use: recreational facilities; moved from original site, conversion to present use in 1952[1]

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1 J.J. Woods, The Agassiz-Harrison Valley History and Development (Sidney: Centennial Committee, 1958), pp. 71 and 110.

10-002 Armstrong City Hall
110 Wood Avenue
Built in 1916[1,2,3]; councils, City of Armstrong and District of Spallumcheen, designers[4]; N. Ferguson, builder[2]; brick
Use: municipal offices; exterior totally renovated ca. 1970s; rear addition[5]

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1 J. Serra, The History of Armstrong, British Columbia (Armstrong: n.p., 1969), pp. 62-4.
2 Advertiser (Armstrong), 16 November 1916, p. 1.
3 Ibid., 28 December 1916, p. 1.
4 Ibid., 21 October 1915, p. 1.
5 City Clerk, telephone interview, 7 July 1978.

10-003 Chilliwack District Municipal Hall
45910 Alexander Avenue
Built in 1914[1,2]; architect unknown; Shirley and Love, builder[1]; wood with cement block basement
Original use: municipal offices, police station, school board offices, cells[1]; present use: catering and banquet hall; addition ca. 1936[2]; conversion to banquet hall ca. 1959

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1 Progress (Chilliwack), 3 April 1912, p. 1; ibid., 16 April 1914, p. 1; ibid., 13 August 1914, p. 1.
2 Clara Cartmill, "Official Opening of the New Municipal Hall." Manuscript on file, Chilliwack Museum, Add. Mss. 1, file 325.

10-004 Chilliwack City Hall
44 Spadina Avenue
Built between 1910 and 1912[1,2,3]; Thomas Hooper, architect[1,2,3]; J.C. Robertson, builder[1,2,3]; concrete
Original use: municipal offices, court, police offices, cells[2,3]; present use: municipal offices; interior totally renovated

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1 City of Chilliwack, Minutes Book, 1911-13, pp. 176 and 194; ibid., Records of the Council of the City of Chilliwack, 1908-1910, pp. 311, 320, 331, 348 and 362.
2 Chilliwack Engineering Department, original building plans.
3 Progress (Chilliwack), 1 June 1910, p. 1; ibid., 15 July 1910, p. 1; ibid., 3 April 1912, p. 1.
Photo: CIHB.

10-005 Cloverdale Public Library
17635 58th Avenue, Surrey
Built in 1912[1,2]; C.H. Clow, architect[3]; J.H. Vickers, builder[2,3]; local brick and field stone[4]
Original use: municipal offices, police station, cells, caretaker's accommodation; present use: public library; jail addition ca. 1943; addition in 1952; conversion to library in 1977

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1 Municipality of Surrey, Council Minutes, 1906-1912, p. 431.
2 Ibid., p. 468.
3 Ibid., p. 445.
4 Cloverdale Public Library, "Municipal Hall file."
Photo: CIHB, G.E. Mills.

10-006 Cranbrook City Hall
40 10th Avenue S.
Built between 1911 and 1912[1]; architect unknown; Leask and Liddicoat, builders[2]; brick
Original use: municipal offices, jail, police office, court room[2]; present use: municipal offices; removal of tower, various additions

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1 Garry W. Anderson, Cranbrook Heritage Report (Cranbrook: Archives, Museum and Landmark Foundation, 1976), p. 14; Herald (Cranbrook), 10 November 1910; ibid., 24 November 1910.
2 Herald (Cranbrook), 20 April 1911, p. 1 and 3.

10-007 Delta Historical Museum
4858 Delta Street, Ladner
Built in 1912[1]; A. Campbell Hope, architect[1,2]; C.S. Bowden, builder[1]; wood, brick
Original use: municipal hall, police station, school board offices, cells, caretaker's apartment[1]; present use: museum; rear addition, conversion to museum in 1969

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1 Municipality of Delta, Council Minutes, Vol. 6 (August 1906 – September 1914), pp. 443, 451, 460 and 472.
2 Vancouver City Archives, Architectural Institute of British Columbia, file number 115.
Photo: CIHB, G.E. Mills.

10-008 Enderby City Hall
619 Cliff Street
Built between 1909 and 1910[1]; architect unknown; W.A. Russell, builder[2]; brick

Use: municipal offices, cells, fire station[3]; exterior renovations in 1970s, including removal of bell tower, replacement of original windows and front entrance

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[1] Enderby Press and Walker's Weekly, (Enderby), 23 September 1909, p. 8; ibid., 3 February 1910, p. 1.
[2] Ibid., 7 October 1909, p. 1.
[3] Ibid., 13 January 1910, p. 1.

10-009 Kaslo Municipal Hall
4th Street
Built in 1898[1,2]; Ewart and Currie, architect[3]; D.J. McLachlan, builder[1]; wood, stone basement
Original use: municipal offices, jail, court room, police office; present use: municipal offices, library; interior renovations ca. 1969-70[4]

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[1] Kaslo Historical Committee, History of Kaslo, 1893-1953 (Kaslo: n.p., 1953), p. 46.
[2] Morning News (Kaslo), 26 June 1898, p. 1.
[3] Ibid., 4 June 1898, p. 1.
[4] Telephone interview, Village Clerk, 1978.

10-010 Merritt City Hall
105 Granite Avenue
Built between 1912 and 1913[1]; Samuel Buttrey Birds, architect[1]; Fowler and Larson, builders[1]; wood
Original use: municipal offices, fire station, police station, cells; present use: municipal offices; fire hall, upper storey destroyed by fire ca. 1950; extensive subsequent renovations including addition of third storey[2]

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[1] City of Merritt, City Hall Record Book, pp. 87-8 and 100.
[2] Herald (Merritt), 8 September 1950; ibid., 22 September 1950, ibid., 10 November 1967.

10-011 Former Mission City Municipal Hall
33157 First Avenue, Mission City
Built in 1929; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Original use: municipal offices; present use: vacant; totally renovated during 1940s[1]

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[1] Mrs. Dorothy Crosby, curator, Mission Museum, personal correspondence, 23 August 1978.

10-012 Port Moody City Hall
2425 St. John's Street
Built between 1913 and 1914[1]; Joseph H. Bowman, architect[1]; City of Port Moody, contractor; wood
Original use: municipal offices, fire hall, cells, police offices; present use: municipal offices; fire hall and fire tower removed in 1961, interior renovated[2]

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[1] City of Port Moody, Minute Book no. 1, pp. 42, 58, 66, 90, 111, 127 and 213.
[2] Warren Sommer, "Port Moody City Hall." Manuscript on file, CIHB, Ottawa, 1975, n.p.

Photo: CIHB, G.E. Mills.

10-013 Rossland Fire Hall and City Hall
1900 First Street
Built between 1909 and 1910[1]; architect unknown; builder unknown; brick
Use: fire hall, city hall; removal of hose tower[2]

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[1] Miner (Rossland), 19 January 1910, p. 3.
[2] Fire Insurance Plan of Rossland, B.C. (Vancouver: B.C. Insurance Underwriters' Association, 1931), sheet 11.

10-014 Former Saanich Municipal Hall
4512 West Saanich Road, Saanich
Built in 1911; J.C.M. Keith, architect; C.H. Merkley, builder; wood
Original use: municipal offices; present use: commercial offices; additions in 1915 and 1948; interior totally renovated[1]

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[1] Mrs. J. Morrison, Deputy Clerk, Saanick, unpublished manuscript based on Council Minutes.

10-015 Former Salmon Arm Municipal Hall
132 Hudson Street, Salmon Arm
Built in 1928[1,2]; Mr. Brown (?), architect[3]; William J. Reader, builder[3]; brick
Original use: municipal offices; present use: recreation centre since 1970

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[1] Ernest Doe, Centennial History of Salmon Arm (n.p.: Salmon Arm Observer, 1971), p. 110.
[2] Canadian Municipal Review, Vol. 24 (February, 1928), p. 78.
[3] Personal correspondence with Ernest Doe, January 1979.

Photo: CIHB, G.E. Mills.

10-016 Sandon City Hall
Built between 1900 and 1901[1,2]; E.A. Brown, architect[1]; Fallcott and McMillan, builder[3]; wood
Original use: city hall; present use: abandoned

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[1] British Columbia. Provincial Archives, Adds. Mss. G.R. 304, Minute Book of the City Council, May 28, 1900 -- March 20, 1905, p. 37.

2 Ibid., p. 90.
3 Ibid., p. 32.
Photo: CIHB.

10-017 Surrey Museum
17679 135th Street
Built in 1881[1,2]; architect unknown; W.J. Brewer and H.G. Ballson, builders[1]; wood
Original use: municipal hall, Orange Lodge; present use: museum; conversion to chicken coop ca. 1938[3], conversion to museum

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1 Municipality of Surrey, Council Minutes, 1880-1883, pp. 57-8.
2 Ibid., p. 71.
3 G. Fern Treleaven, The Surrey Story (Surrey: Surrey Museum and Historical Society, 1969), p. 39.

10-018 Trail City Hall and Fire Hall
1394 Pine Avenue
Built between 1923 and 1928[1,2]; C.A. Broderick, architect (1923 section)[1]; builder unknown; brick
Use: municipal hall, fire station; rear addition in 1951, exterior alterations in 1961[1]

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1 Personal correspondence with J. Forbes, planning technician, City of Trail, 18 August 1978.
2 Canadian Municipal Review, Vol. 24 (April 1928), p. 167.

10-019 Victoria City Hall
1 Centennial Square
Built between 1878 and 1891[1,2,3]; John Teague, architect[1]; J. Bennett, builder[2]; brick
Original use: city hall, police station and lockup, fire hall[5]; present use: city hall; interior renovation and rear addition, 1963[4]

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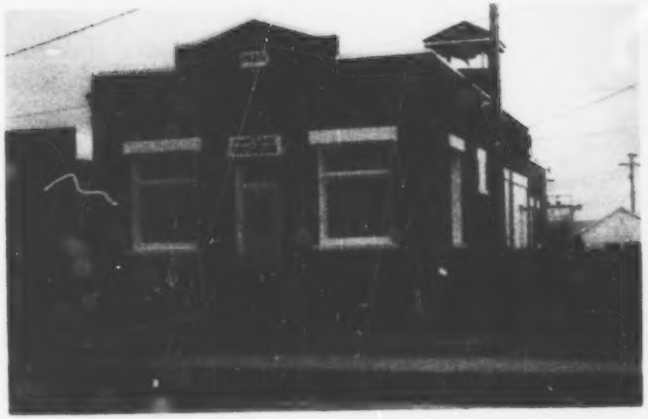
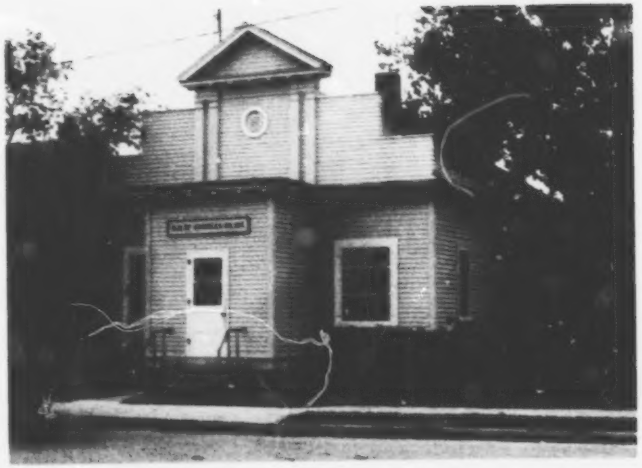
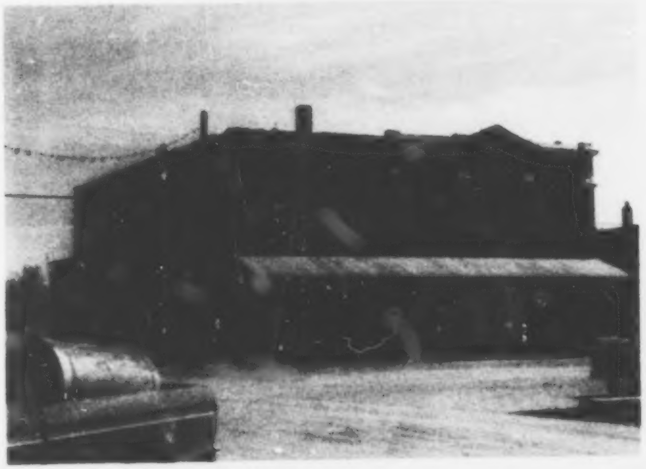
1 Colonist (Victoria), 12 December 1878, p. 3.
2 Ibid., 23 April 1878, p. 3.
3 Ibid., 20 November 1889, p. 4.
4 Ibid., 5 October 1963, p. 13.
5 Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., Insurance Plan of Victoria, B.C. (New York: Sanborn, 1885), sheet 4.
Photo: CIHB.



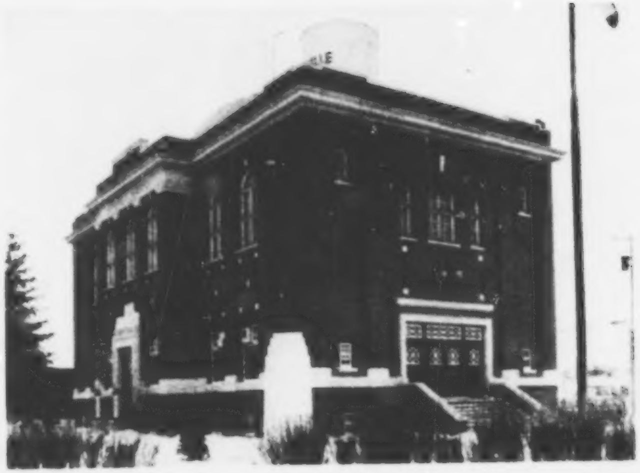
08-014 Foam Lake, Sask.



08-018 Kipling, Sask.



08-016 Hanley, Sask.



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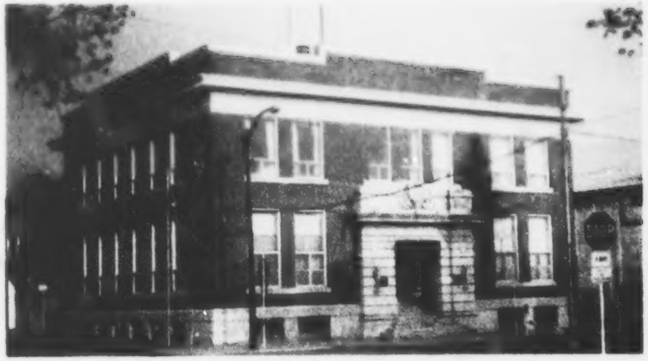
08-032 Rosthern, Sask.



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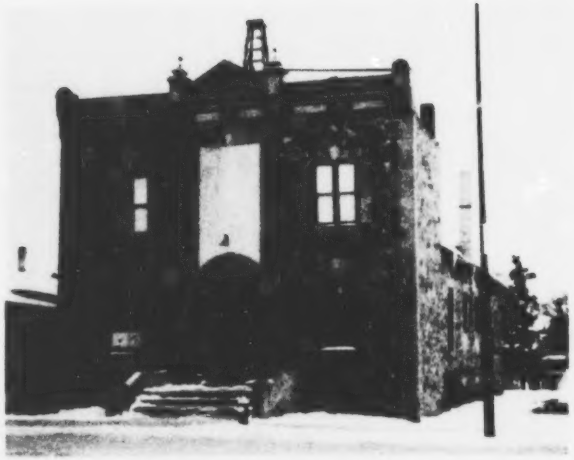

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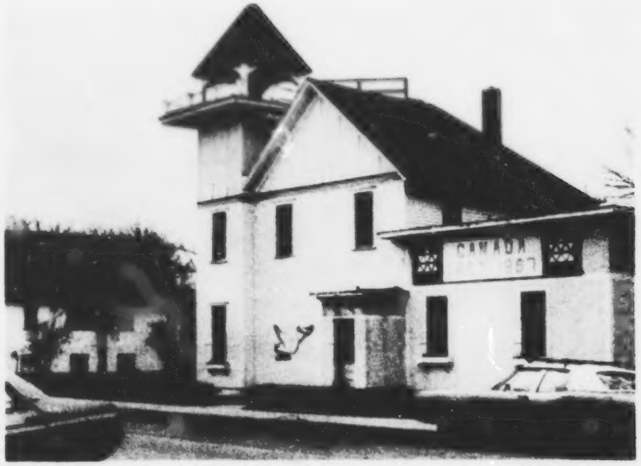

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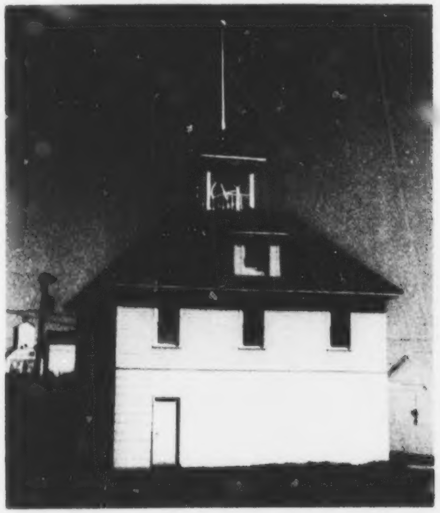

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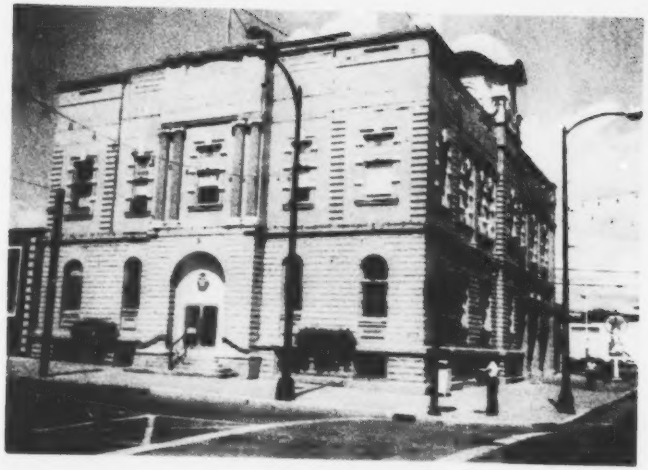
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09-011
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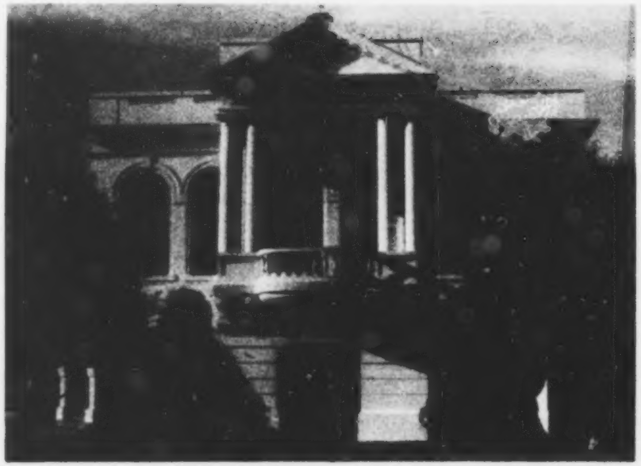
09-005 Coleman, Alta.



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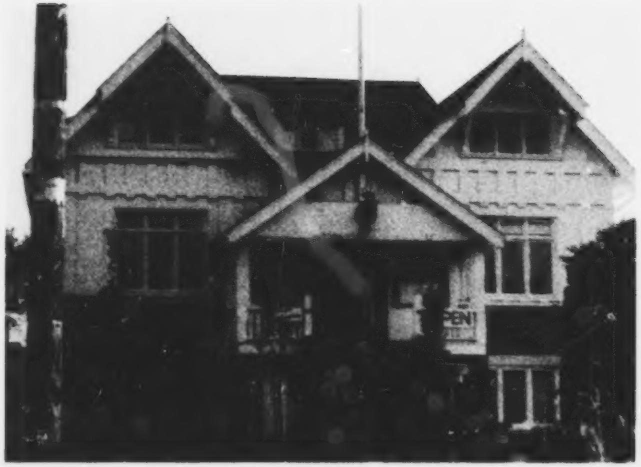

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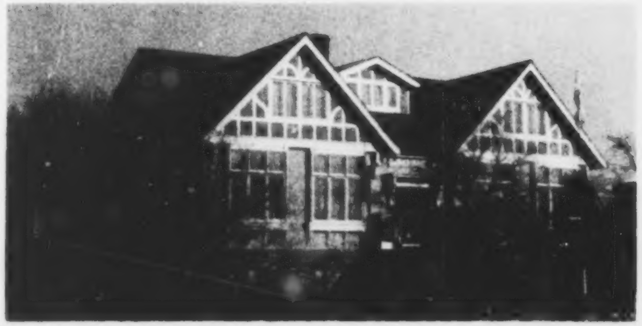

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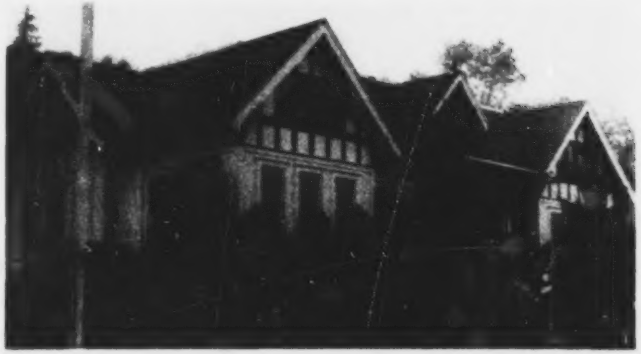

10-012 Port Moody, B.C.

10-015 Salmon Arm, B.C.

10-019 Victoria, B.C.

10-016 Sandon, B.C.

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The two sections which follow constitute a select bibliography of sources examined during this study. The first, "Regional Sources of Data on Town Halls," has been prepared for those interested in obtaining information about particular buildings. It has been compiled in essay format, and is intended to indicate only general types of sources; specific references to information on each town hall are cited in the appendix, "Index of Town Halls Constructed in Canada before 1930." The second part of the bibliography, "Selected Sources of Information on the Town Hall in Canada," contains a conventional bibliography of the major sources used in the preparation of the preceding essays.

REGIONAL SOURCES OF DATA ON TOWN HALLS

a) Newfoundland (G.E. Mills)

Since Newfoundland does not contain any surviving pre-1930 municipal halls, investigation was confined to a brief study of the province's municipal history and the types of facilities used in the absence of town halls. A number of secondary sources were consulted. General overviews were provided by Gertrude E. Gunn's The Political History of Newfoundland, 1832-1864 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1966), and S.J.R. Noel's Politics in Newfoundland (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1971). Additional sources of information on the delayed growth of municipal institutions in Newfoundland include two articles, "Local Government in Newfoundland," by D.W. Prowse, which appeared in the University of Toronto series, Studies in History and Economics, Vols. 2-4 (1907), and J.C. Crosbie's article by the same title in The Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, Vol. 22 (1956).

A number of studies dealing with specific aspects of local administration in Newfoundland were also examined. John Szwed's Private Cultures and Public Imagery: Interpersonal Relationships in a Newfoundland Peasant Society (St. John's: Memorial University, 1966) describes the functions of local road boards and school committees and the facilities they employed in the Codroy Valley. Anthony P. Cohen, The Management of Myths: The Politics of Legitimation in a Newfoundland Community (St. John's: Institute of Social and Economic Research, 1975), examines the reluctance of rural Newfoundland communities to participate in local government, while James C. Faris's Cat Harbour: A Newfoundland Fishing

Settlement (St. John's: Institute of Social and Economic Research, 1966), describes the Fishermen's Protective Union's activities in encouraging local political consciousness in the outports between 1908 and 1920. Further information on this topic was provided by J.R. Smallwood's Coaker of Newfoundland (London: n.p., 1927).

Information on various buildings employed in lieu of town halls was obtained from studies previously prepared by the CIHB Architectural History Section. Documentation on the Colonial Building in St. John's may be found in "Reports on Selected Buildings in St. John's, Newfoundland," Manuscript Report Series No. 256 (Ottawa: Environment Canada – Parks, 1974). Information on court houses, which served as centres for local administration in many communities, is located in R.R. Rostecki's, "The Early Court Houses of Newfoundland," Manuscript Report Series No. 312 (Ottawa: Environment Canada – Parks, 1977).

b) The Maritime Provinces (C.A. Hale)

Several methods were employed in acquiring information on town and city hall architecture in the Maritime provinces. It should be noted that no secondary sources deal in any depth with pre-1930 municipal architecture in this region. Consequently, most of the information on town and city hall construction and use was obtained from primary sources, site examinations, and articles relating to specific buildings.

Municipal records were a principal primary source. Directories of incorporated municipalities existing in each province were initially obtained from the provincial departments of Municipal Affairs. City and town clerks' offices were then contacted by telephone to determine quickly the most recent status of the building, to request a modern photograph of the structure, and to obtain any historic views which might be available locally. Letters containing questionnaires were sent to many of the town offices, to solicit more details and to assure potential informants that the inquiry was legitimate. Most of these contacts were cooperative and supplied such basic data as the building's street address and its siting in relation to the rest of the community. Local officials also provided accurate dates of construction and of major renovations (in many cases verified by further research), data on extant former municipal halls that might have been adapted to other uses, and information on the placement and types of offices or departments occupying the hall at various stages of municipal development. This direction of inquiry, however, made some respondents reluctant to reply fully, in the interests of security. Some of the clerks kindly sent copies of municipal council minutes dealing with the construction of the municipal hall, but in many instances it appears that few detailed records of the construction process were preserved. Questionnaires were also sent to the various regional offices of assessment within the provincial departments of Municipal Affairs of Nova Scotia and

New Brunswick concerning the municipal halls situated in their areas of jurisdiction. Responses varied in enthusiasm, but a considerable amount of information was obtained in this manner.

Research was conducted at the major provincial historical institutions to obtain further details on specific communities and their municipal halls, existing or demolished. This included photographs and architectural plans of the buildings as well as general legislation pertaining to the subject of municipal government. This aspect of the investigation entailed research at each of the three provincial archives, the museums and legislative libraries of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the Research and Development Branch of Historical Resources Administration in Fredericton, the Department of Supply and Services of New Brunswick, and the Prince Edward Island Heritage Foundation. Investigation at these institutions yielded good results. It produced a limited collection of photographs of municipal halls which were labelled and organized with varying degrees of accuracy and convenience of access, architectural plans, local histories (in otherwise limited circulation), and advice from personnel who helpfully recommended specific areas of concentration. Research data and detailed interior and exterior photographic recordings of several town halls and all of the major pre-1930 city halls in this region were also available from the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building headquarters in Ottawa.

A number of theses, books and pamphlets of both provincial and local significance, as well as material relating to the governmental structures of the three provinces, were reviewed for background and contextual information. For the study of town and city halls in Nova Scotia, the most useful of these include two excellent books by J. Murray Beck, entitled The Evolution of Municipal Government in Nova Scotia 1749-1973, a study prepared for the Nova Scotia Royal Commission on Eduction, Public Services and Provincial-Municipal Relations (Halifax: Government of Nova Scotia, 1973), and The Government of Nova Scotia (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1957). Beck's observations on Nova Scotia's late development of municipal government relative to other established areas of the country, such as Ontario, are particularly interesting. Peter Johnson's "Relations Between the Government of Nova Scotia and the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities: 1906-1966," (Master's thesis, Dalhousie University, 1968) provides useful insights into the increasing complexity of municipal organizations as local governments matured in this century.

In The Development of Local Government in New Brunswick (Fredericton: Government of New Brunswick, 1963), Hugh J. Whalen deals with the evolution of municipal governments in New Brunswick. He shows how the central administration in Fredericton, overburdened with paperwork, initially encouraged through permissive legislation, then actually forced, the responsibility for local affairs into the hands and pockets of the tax-fearing communities. This common dread of increased taxation and a reluctance to invest in an uncertain economic future generally resulted, in all three Maritime provinces, in a very small legacy of striking pre-1930 municipal architecture compared to other parts of the country. James Arthur Blakeney's unpublished thesis, "Trends in Provincial Municipal Relations in New Brunswick 1784-1949," (thesis, Dalhousie University, 1949), is another useful source on the subject of municipal government in New Brunswick. Like Beck and Whalen, Frank MacKinnon, in his book The Government of Prince Edward Island (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1951), analyzes the evolution of government on the Island, and shows how, in contrast to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, control over local affairs in this small province remained in the hands of the central administration in the capital throughout the pre-1930 period. Few writers deal directly with the buildings that housed municipal governments in the Maritimes although many community and county histories do mention the "town hall" if there was one, and some include photographs of them.

Finally, it is pertinent to mention that among the most helpful and informed sources on this particular subject were the respective departments of Municipal Affairs; Irene Rogers and her colleagues at the Prince Edward Island Heritage Foundation; David Myles, Historic Sites Supervisor, and Robert Power, Architectural Services Supervisor, both of Historical Resources Administration, province of New Brunswick; and Garry Shutlak, map archivist at the Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia. All assisted with either their intimate knowledge of the governmental structure, or their awareness of the presence of relevant buildings in certain areas.

c) Quebec (Marc de Caraffe)

Most of the information used to compile our inventory of old town halls in Quebec was obtained from municipal officials (secretary-treasurers, clerks, etc.), whom we were able to contact with the help of the Répertoire des municipalités du Québec (Québec: Éditeur officiel du Québec, 1978), which lists all municipal corporations in Quebec, along with the address and telephone number of their secretary-treasurer.

These municipal officials got their information from three main sources. The first and most important is the minutes of municipal council meetings, in which the date of construction, names of builders and architects, and sometimes the specifications and public tenders are found. It should be noted, however, that a number of such records have been lost or burned. It would be very useful to collect all these official accounts in a single archival centre in order to preserve them and facilitate their consultation. We consulted such records on location only when our informants had difficulty answering our questions.

The second source of information is physical evidence, such as old photographs, dated stones (in the case of the Havelock town hall) and inscriptions indicating the year of construction and, in a few cases, the name of the builder.

Finally, our informants also used local monographs, such as the one by Charles Codebecq, *Inventaire historique de la cité de Salaberry de Valleyfield* (Salaberry de Valleyfield: Ville de Salaberry de Valleyfield, 1978).

Often this information was corroborated by newspaper articles written at the time of construction of the town hall, such as the article in the *Progrès du Golfe* (Rimouski) of October 17, 1930. Retrospective articles, including the one by Gérard Prince, "Il faut préserver l'aspect historique d'Ulverton," *La Tribune* (Sherbrooke), March 30, 1978, were also very useful.

Some archives and research centres also have information on the construction of town halls. The Archives of the City of Montreal, which contains many documents on all Montreal municipal buildings, was the most important such centre for this study. For its part, the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building has prepared files on a number of Quebec municipal halls. The Inventory of Cultural Property of Quebec, on the other hand, has so far taken an interest only in municipal buildings other than town halls.

In the course of our research we contacted historical societies, in particular those of Cap-de-la-Madeleine and the Richelieu Valley, and found in their members dedicated collaborators. We thank them sincerely.

The only secondary source that deals with our subject is an article by Léon Trépanier, "Nos hôtels de ville," in *Les cahiers des dix*, No. 26 (1961), pp. 235-246, Montreal. This study does nost provide many details, and deals mainly with buildings which were not originally intended to accommodate municipal government.

The history of municipal government in Quebec has yet to be written. Horace L. Brittain's *Local Government in Canada* (Toronto: Ryerson, 1951) and Kenneth Grant Crawford's *Canadian Municipal Government* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1954) are good introductions to the subject, but deal only briefly with the province of Quebec. Gustave Lanctôt's "Le régime municipal en Nouvelle-France" (*Culture*, Vol. 9, No. 3, Sept. 1940, Quebec City) and Julien Drapeau's *Histoire du régime municipal au Québec exposé fait devant les Étudiants des départements de géographie et d'architecture (Université Laval) le 18 janvier 1967* (Québec: Ministre des Affaires municipales, 1967) are more complete, but the subject is far from exhausted.

d) Ontario (Dana Johnson)

Ontario currently includes 838 municipal units, most of which were incorporated before 1930; in addition, some municipalities incorporated before 1930 have since disappeared by amalgamation or dissolution. The documentary sources for municipal buildings in Ontario are, therefore, vast in extent and scattered in geographical location. The first source surveyed was the municipal clerks (or their equivalent), who were contacted by telephone and/or letter. These officers were generally able to state whether a town hall existed, whether it predated 1930 and where it was; in some cases, they were able to provide either additional material on the building or the name of someone who could do so. A listing of current Ontario municipalities, and of municipal officers, is provided by the Municipal Directory, produced annually by the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs of Ontario. The information provided by the clerks was then expanded by on-site visits. These permitted inspection and photographing of the structure, and research in the municipal records into its origins. Most of the buildings were photographed in this manner, and 67 buildings were documented on-site by research in minutes, bylaws and/or accounts. A further 96 buildings were documented through the collection of microfilmed municipal records held by the Archives of Ontario in Toronto, while 22 others were researched through the collection of municipal documents in the Western Ontario Regional Collection of the Lawson Memorial Library, University of Western Ontario. Where municipal records were either missing or unavailable, newspapers became an important source of information; 22 additional buildings were documented in this way. In the remaining cases, information provided by clerks continued to be the only data obtainable on the structure concerned.

Municipal buildings were an enduring interest to journals as varied as Canadian Illustrated News, Canadian Architect and Builder and Contract Record. Eighteen such journals have been indexed for Ontario buildings; the index, ARCHIDONT, is held by the Fine Arts Department, Metropolitan Toronto Central Library and was consulted freely and often.

Ontario has a long and well-developed tradition of preparing detailed histories of municipalities and hamlets. Much information about buildings, and about the communities that erected them, was garnered from this source. A full listing is provided by William F.E. Morley, Ontario and the Canadian North in the series Canadian Local Histories to 1950: A Bibliography (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978). This should be updated by Barbara B. Aitken's Local Histories of Ontario Municipalities 1951-1977: A Bibliography (Toronto: Ontario Library Association, 1978).

A comprehensive history of municipal organization in Ontario has yet to be written. The period before 1850 has been carefully examined by J.H. Aitchison, "The Development of Local Government in Upper Canada 1788-1850," (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Toronto, 1954). Statutes, published annually, provided access to developments in municipal organization after 1850.

e) The Prairie Provinces (R.R. Rostecki)

Information on the town halls of the Prairie provinces was obtained from three major sources: municipal clerks, local histories and local newspapers. Municipal clerks were contacted by letter, telephone and in person, and for the most part were able to provide data on the approximate date of construction and present use and appearance of their buildings as well as some photographs. Local histories supplied similar information on the date and cost of many buildings at the time of their construction, general background information and photographs. The same type of data was also found in local newspapers, which provided a supplementary record in the form of tenders, awards and, often, council minutes concerning the origin of buildings, and articles describing their construction and alteration.

Data to supplement information available from these three major sources were obtained from a variety of other sources consulted for their content on specific communities. The building files of the Historic Resources Branch of the government of Manitoba provided information and photographs for some buildings in the province, as did the records of Saskatchewan Culture and Recreation and the inventory of Alberta buildings prepared by Alberta Culture for their respective provinces. When they were available in provincial archives, municipal government records such as council minutes, cashbooks and letterbooks were consulted in all three provinces. Information on the Moose Jaw Town Hall (originally a post office) and the Banff Town Hall, both built as federal buildings, was located in federal Department of Public Works records. Local Chamber of Commerce publications like *Facts about Carman* (Winnipeg: Department of Industry and Commerce, n.d.) were also reviewed when they were available. Journals such as the *Western Home Monthly*, the *Western Review* and the *Western Municipal News* also contained both photographs and articles on town halls in specific communities. To these were added photographs of buildings recorded by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, data previously researched by the CIHB, and information obtained from selective site visits.

General background information on the early development of municipal institutions in the three Prairie provinces was obtained from S. Morley Wickett's "Municipal Government in the North-West Territories," in *Municipal Government in Canada*, ed. S. Morley Wickett (Toronto: University of Toronto Studies, 1907); from A.N. Reid's "Functions of Urban Municipalities in the Northwest Territories: Public Works and Public Utilities," *Saskatchewan History*, Vol. 10 (Autumn 1957), pp. 81-96; and from Lewis Herbert Thomas' *The Struggle for Responsible Government in the North-West Territories, 1870-1897* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978). These sources were supplemented by applicable *Ordinances* of the Government of the North-West Territories (Regina).

Once Manitoba had achieved provincial status, the development of its municipal institutions and its effect on town hall construction were traced in Alan C. Ewart's "The Municipal History of Manitoba" in *Municipal Government in Canada*, ed. S. Morley Wickett (Toronto: University of Toronto, 1907), and E.M. Wood's "Local Improvements in Rural Municipalities in Manitoba," *Western Municipal News*, Vol. 6, No. 10 (October 1911), pp. 321-2. These were supplemented by statistical reports on municipal development issued by the government of Manitoba from 1870 to date.

Saskatchewan's municipal development was monitored through three major sources, J.N. Bayne's article "Municipal Development in Saskatchewan," Western Municipal News, Vol. 5 (November 1910), pp. 330-2; J.J. Smith's "Municipal Conditions in Saskatchewan," Municipal Review of Canada, Vol. 21 (April 1925), pp. 140-1, and George F. Dawson's The Municipal System of Saskatchewan (Regina: Department of Municipal Affairs, 1955). The growth of municipal institutions in Alberta was traced through the annual Reports of the Department of Municipal Affairs, published by the province, supplemented by such articles as "A Sketchy Retrospect of the Union of Alberta Municipalities," Western Municipal News, Vol. 11 (November 1916), p. 315, and J.N. Bayne's more general early article "Western Municipal Development," Western Municipal News, Vol. 6 (September 1909), pp. 1271-80, which applied to all three Prairie provinces.

f) British Columbia (G.E. Mills)

The study of municipal halls in British Columbia was divided into two parts. The first dealt with the history of municipal institutions in the province, with an emphasis on social, economic and legislative factors which influenced town hall design and construction. The second consisted of an examination of individual pre-1930 examples based on local sources.

Municipal acts and amendments to them were obtained from successive volumes of British Columbia statutes, specifically British Columbia Statutes (Victoria: Wolfenden, 1871), Consolidated Statutes of British Columbia (Victoria: Legislative Assembly, 1877), and Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1897 (Victoria: Legislative Assembly, 1897). These sources provided an overview of regulations pertaining to urban and rural incorporation in the province, as well as regulations regarding municipal jurisdictions, limitations for loans and the floating of debentures – all of which had a direct influence upon municipal hall construction in incorporated communities. Analysis of the state of incorporated municipalities in the province during the period under study was scanty. Of value were S.M. Wickett's study "Local Government in British Columbia," which appeared in the University of Toronto series Studies in History and Economics, 1st. ed. Vol. 2 (1902), and H. Carl Goldenburg's Provincial-Municipal Relations in British Columbia (Victoria: King's Printer, 1947). Further information was obtained from an unpublished Ph.D. thesis, A Fiscal History of British Columbia in the Colonial Period by Peter Fourie Palmer (Stanford University, 1932), and from the first volume of R.E. Gosnell's Year Book of British Columbia and Manual of Provincial Information (Victoria: Legislative Assembly, 1897). A glimpse of contemporary views and controversies relating to local government and its regulation in the province was provided by newspapers, especially the British Colonist (later Victoria Daily Colonist) for which a convenient index exists at the Provincial Archives in Victoria. Since a provincial Ministry of Municipal Affairs was not established until the 1930s, uniform statistical information on municipal government is not available for most of the period under study, apart from occasional reports appearing in the British Columbia Sessional Papers: "Bureau of Statistics Report Re: Municipalities," in the 1896 edition and "Report of the Inspector of Municipalities," in 1917 were particularly useful.

Documentation of individual municipal halls was based mainly on municipal records, newspapers, local histories and personal interviews. A telephone survey was conducted to identify surviving pre-1930 examples and to determine their current uses and physical condition. The majority of communities retained early minute books. Since the construction of a new town hall comprised a major expenditure, it usually (though not invariably) received thorough coverage in council meetings. In a few rare instances municipalities have also retained copies of original building plans and other documents relating to design and construction. Local newspapers are a rich source of information on town hall construction in the province. The Provincial Archives' newspaper index was a valuable aid for retrieving articles from this source, although the most extensive collection of early dailies and weeklies is held by the Legislative Library. Members of local historical societies, as well as current and retired municipal officials, were helpful both in providing information and in tracking down further potential sources. Local histories were uneven in their usefulness to the project. Those containing direct references to town hall construction are cited in the building index (see Appendix). Town halls for the most part received surprisingly little attention in such publications, although a few provided extensive documentation on their construction and subsequent usage. Additional sources employed in the study consisted of early fire insurance plans and historical photographic collections. The former provided a useful guide to siting as well as to additions or alterations to the structures. The most extensive collection of fire insurance plans for British Columbia communities is held by the Special Collections Division, University of British Columbia, which has prepared a useful index for its holdings. Historical photographs were obtained from local museums, archives and historical societies, as well as from the Visual Records Division of the Provincial Archives. The latter repository has a fairly extensive collection of photographs of early town halls in the province.

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